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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 12TH DECEMBER.

MR. RICHARD CONGREVE, the apostle of Positivism, has issued a fly-leaf on the Irish Crisis, from which we make the following extract:

Why is the Land Bill unacceptable? First, because it has the character of a bribe—its advocates are not slow to admit it,—a bribe to the Irish nation to barter for certain material benefits their proper object, their higher and just claims to be an independent state. I confront the two antagonist demands as tersely as possible. Independence of the English Parliament is the one condition, Mr. Pernell [illegible] of a satisfactory settlement; dependence on the English Parliament is the one condition on which Mr. Gladstone insists as beyond concession, beyond even discussion, unless I mistake him greatly. The English statesman is no doubt in accordance with actual English opinion; the Irish statesman, with greater prescience and a more sympathetic insight into the true issue, has in my conviction, the future with him. So long as the rulers of England hold to this curt arrogant denial of a nation's fair claim,—it would seem they think it treason to assert it—so long peace is not possible; so long all that is attainable is an alternation of lulls and outbreaks, each successive crisis making the difficulty greater.

But this Land Bill is unacceptable on a second, if nearly allied, ground. It tends, as the Irish leaders see, to fasten more securely on them that from which they would be free, what is called landlordism, which constitutes the main difficulty of their struggle, as it is the real strength of the connection between the two countries. In other words, it is in their judgment a wholy inadequate measure, though sufficiently in advance of the present state to hold out a great temptation. They would have done with half-solutions.

Their action is not legal. No revolution is legal. Neither William of Orange nor Washington were in the strict path of legality, and a revolution tending to separation, such is the Irish movement under all its various phases—O'Connell—Fenianism—the Land League.

This English statesmen cannot or will not understand. So two incompatible nations remain bound together by virtue of the superior strength of one. their conflicting claims do not become more but less reconcilable as the generations succeed one another. How long will the stronger persist in its claim and persist in it as beyond argument: for in this lies the sting.

The truth is—the Irishman will be satisfied with nothing short of Home Rule.

APROPOS of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's theory of Cerberus guarding the gates of hell the *Kali Yug* of Bhaugulpore quotes the following account of the Thibetan custom of setting dogs on dead bodies:

The Chinese say that the three great productions of the Capital of Thibet are Lamas, women, and dogs. The cause of this multitude is the use the Tibetans make of dogs in the disposal of their dead. Four different kinds of sepulture are in use;—combustion; immersion in the rivers and lakes exposure on the summits of mountains; and the fourth, the most esteemed, is to cut the corpse in pieces, and give it to the dogs. The poor have the dogs of the suburbs for their mausoleum; but for persons of distinction a little more ceremony is used. There are Convents where they keep. *ad hoc* sacred dogs; and it is to them the bodies of the rich Thibetians are carried."

RUSSIAN FINANCE seems to be again in a bad way. The last budget shows a deficit of 50,000,000 roubles (over £7,000,000), and this is said to be only approximate. Perhaps the world's immunity from Russian aggressiveness lies in the chronic insolvency of Russia.

WE HAVE much pleasure in making the following extracts from an article in *Allen's Indian Mail* on High Education in India:

It may be doubted whether there has ever been, in the history of the world, any great teaching university that had been maintained solely by the fees of its students. In England the difference—an enormous one—is made up by the glorious endowments which our Oxford and Cambridge colleges have inherited; and of these endowments a very large number may be traced to public sources, gifts of Crown lands, and the like. In Ireland the difference is largely made up, exactly as it is in India, by a direct grant from the public revenues. Take for instance, Cardinal Wolsey's magnificent foundation at Oxford. It was ultimately endowed and settled by King Henry the Eighth, and its endowment. may therefore be considered a State endowment. Putting aside its capitular establishment, and looking only at the cost of maintaining Christ Church as an educational institution, with its eighty senior and junior students (formerly one hundred and one), and its grand administrative and instructional machinery, does any one suppose that all this—or any thing more than a comparatively insignificant proportion of it—is maintained out of the amount (£21 each for annum) which is all that Christ Church men pay to their college for their tuition? And yet it has never been suggested that the education given at Christ Church is an eleemosynary one; nor has it been proposed to resume for public purposes King Henry the Eighth's grants to Christ Church on the ground that the well-to-do classes of England are there aided to obtain an education the total cost of which they are well able and should be forced to pay.

Referring to the Presidency College, Calcutta, the writer remarks:

Let us compare the amount paid as tuition fees by a student of the Presidency College, Calcutta, with that paid by a commoner of one of the colleges of Oxford. The former pays £14 8s. per annum, the latter £21; but when we recollect that Rs. 12 per mensem in India will provide food and clothing for more than one person whilst in England £21 a year will not provide the barest subsistence diet for a single man, it will be seen that the Presidency College fees are really higher than the fees payable at Christ Church, Oxford. In the missionary colleges of Calcutta the fees are generally Rs. 5 per mensem only a rate rendered possible by English charitable contribution to mission funds; but the Presidency College fee Rs. 12 so far from being small, or in any way deserving of the epithet "eleemosynary," is probably relatively larger than the similar fee in any other university in the world—and indeed, is only maintained by the excessively keen and highly praiseworthy desire for university education that is so conspicuous in Lower Bengal.

Mr. Roper Lethbridge, the present editor of the *Mail*, has been a consistent advocate of liberal education in India. We cannot be too grateful to him for taking up the cause at the present time when it is threatened by the Exeter Hall party in England.

THE PIONEER has a fair article on the opium question. Our contemporary thus compares the merits of the monopoly and the existing system:

What then are the relative advantages and disadvantages of the two systems? Under that of Bengal the drug is prepared for the market at about half the price of the Malwa opium. Moreover the two millions expended in its preparation goes into the pockets of cultivators whom it is distinctly to the advantage of the Government to assist and find in employment. The middle man is entirely done away with. Besides this the Government, by putting a limit on the supply in any one year, can prevent the flooding of the market, and can lay in a store to meet the deficiency of the crop in bad seasons. The revenue thus to be derived can thus be determined accurately beforehand in preparing the budget estimates. On the other hand, under the Malwa system, we have a double cost of produce, an absolute uncertainty as to the approximate revenue from year to year, and the necessity of a large increase in our coast-guard in order to prevent smuggling. Nor would it even then be possible to collect a revenue equal to that at present obtained. Roughly speaking the opium revenue may be put down at eight millions net, and to produce this revenue under the Malwa system with the present duty would require the export of 160,000 chests instead of the 80,000 at present exported, and this without estimating the cost to Government of the extra precautionary measures to prevent smuggling. If then the Government is prepared to sanction the abolition of its present monopoly of production and vend, it must be prepared to sacrifice at least from two to three millions of revenue. Well may we ask *cui bono*? Surely if the Government can make Rs. 800 per chest instead of Rs. 400, it behoves it to do so. Not to do so would be nothing less than to encourage a system of gross waste without benefit to any single being. The untenability of the moral argument has been pointed out before. No one can honestly believe that the abolition of the Government monopoly will in any way affect the consumption of the drug in China. All that would be accomplished by such a course would be a sure loss of revenue, which the country cannot afford to lose, and the rendering insecure and unstable a source of income which, under the present system, is the least fluctuating and most easily determined of the items which go to swell the budget of this country.

We are glad to see that our contemporary is at one with us on this momentous question.

TUESDAY, 13TH DECEMBER.

WE SEE it stated that Babus Brojobullub Dutt, M. A., and Greesh Chunder Bose M. A., are the successful candidates for Sir Ashley Eden's agricultural scholarships tenable at Cirencester for the ensuing year. The former is the Head Master of the Sreedhur Bungsheedhur School at Nawabgunge, and is the Gold Medalist of 1880, in Physical Science, and the latter is a Lecturer on Chemistry at the Cuttack College. An allowance of £200 a year, tenable for 2½ years, will be granted to each of these candidates, and will commence from 1st January, 1882, or immediately after their arrival in England. An outfit allowance of Rs. 1,000 has also been sanctioned to each of them.

IT IS RUMOURED that a scheme is projected for reviving the idea of a canal through the Isthmus of Kraw, situated in the upper part of the Malay Peninsula. It is stated that the project is under French auspices. The idea is not new, as it was energetically pushed as far back as 1859-60, and was advocated at that time by Sir John Bowring, a former Governor of Hong-Kong.

THE BISHOP of Manchester, in a recent speech which has been widely quoted, says, "The spreading canker of impurity in all classes of society, of which medical men sadly assure me, is the one thing that alarms me for the future of England." And on the other side of the Atlantic, a week or two before, the Editor of the *Christian Union* wrote: "The disintegration of the family and the degradation of womanhood, is the most serious symptom in the social life of America to-day." If all this be true, then what are the Christian clergy about? The Christian missionaries working in India ought to begin their charity at home.

APROPOS of the above the *Lucknow Witness* says:

The laws of England, and in hardly less degree those of most of the American States with reference to violation of chastity are a standing disgrace to the legislators who enacted them and the communities that endure them. Sins of this description should be visited whith severest condemnation not only by the courts but by the usages of society. All the relations between the sexes from early years should be guarded with closest care, and no pains spared to inculcate perfect purity by all possible means.

We ask again are not these legislators Christians?

A PROJECT has been set on foot for holding a Universal Exhibition in Rome in 1885-1886.

APROPOS of the celebration of the seventieth birthday of John Bright we give the following facts connected wth the life and career of the great Tribune of the people culled from his recently published biography, by Mr. Barnett Smith. Mr. Bright was born at Rochdale, the son of a Quaker cotton manufacturer. His family were originally settled as farmers at Lincham, in Wiltshire, where "Bright's Farm" is still standing; and early in the last century one member of it, Abraham Bright, who married Martha Jacobs, migrated to Coventry. Here his great-great-grandson, the grandfather of the statesman was born in 1775. *His* son, Jacob Bright, who was educated at the Quaker School at Acworth, was apprenticed to a Derbyshire manufacturer of fustians. In 1802 two of this fustian manufacturers' sons migrated to Rochdale, and Jacob Bright, who had married their sisters, was employed in their mill. Seven years after, assisted by some Manchester men, he started on his own account as a cotton spinner. Two years later—Nov. 16, 1813—his son John was born; by the death of the first-born in childhood he became the eldest of the family, a delicate boy, who gave but little promise of the robust strength of his later manhood. At fifteen years of age he left school for good, and at once began to take part in the business of the mill. His interest in politics seems to have been first aroused by the enthusiasm of Nicholas Nuttall, one of his father's employes, in favour of Henry Hunt, who contested Preston against the late Lord Derby in 1830, when young Bright was nineteen years of age; but his first speech was made soon after attaining his majority, when presiding at a lecture delivered in Rochdale by the late Mr. James Silk Buckingham, on Egypt, Palestine, and India, the substance of which Mr. Barnett Smith has been enabled to reproduce. His after-career is well known.

WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER.

MR. BRADLAUGH appealed against the decision of the Court, which overruled his demurrer to Mr. Clarke's statement of claim in the action against Mr. Bradlaugh for having sat and voted in the House of Commons without having taken the oath. Lord Coleridge decided that the appeal must be dismissed, and the Lords Justices sitting with him took the same view.

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent at Khulnea:

One could easily perceive that the time for the contemplated conversion of this sub-division into an independent district is not distant. Arrangements have already commenced. You are perhaps aware that this district will be called the Sunderbuns district and will comprise among other places, the whole of Sathkhira, part of Bussirhat, the whole of Bagirhat and Khulna Proper. It is very desirable that the portion of the Nurrail Munsiffi which borders on Khulna Proper should also be included in the proposed new district. A plan of the site of the Headquarters station has been prepared by the Deputy Magistrate in consultation with the District Magistrate of Jessore. This site includes lands which comprise the homestead and garden lands of the inhabitants, who belong to the respectable middle class, who are all poor people, and no amount of compensation will be any thing like an equivalent to

the loss which the acquisition will entail upon them. The selection as it may be well imagined has evoked a storm of opposition. The parties interested have, if I am rightly informed, sent up a petition to Government protesting against the selection which they show however is not very happy and advantageous for the purpose intended. While it will entail upon them incalculable loss and no end of hardship it will at the same time throw upon Government much unnecessary expense which might be avoided by another selection perhaps better suited to the purpose. The site which they point out for the purpose is the open and extensive field lying to the south of the Jessore road and east of the selected site for the Railway station facing the river Rupsha which is here less subject to deluvion. There is another spot also which they name and which would serve the purpose as well or better. It is the space lying east of the road running northwards from the Strand Road pressing by the school-house and joining the Jessore Road in its south course, that is the block west of the river Roopsha. This last-mentioned site has another great advantage. It includes the present Government buildings which might be well utilized and it is also not far off from the junction of these navigable rivers.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Rohimabad on the Oude and Rohilkhund Railway complains that while letters and papers from Calcutta reach Wulibad Post Office on the 3rd day they are not delivered to them earlier than the 5th or 6th day. This causes them much inconvenience, which may be obviated by establishing a letter-box here, the cost of which will be more than recouped by the receipts on account of postage.

THE FOLLOWING is the list of M. Gambetta's Ministry for France :

M. Gambetta, President of Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs
M. Wrideck-Rousseau, Minister of the Interior.
M Amain-Targe, Minister of Finance.
Admiral Gougeard, Minister of Marine.
M. Rouvier, Minister of Commerce and the Colonies.
General Campenon. Minister of War.
M. Cochery, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.
M. Raynal, Minister of Public Works.
M. Cazot, Minister of Justice.
M. Pal Bert, Minister of Public Instruction.
M. Deves, Minister of Agriculture.
M. A. Proust, Minister of Arts and Manufactures.

Several members of the new cabinet are untired men.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPORE correspondent writes as follows :

I am credibly informed that Mr. Commissioner Peacock, has taken notes of what I wrote in the *Patriot* about the epidemic fever and will soon proceed to Kushtea. I therefore take this opportunity to bring to your notice (to Mr. Peacock's notice) a long standing grievance of the people of this part of the Nuddea District. The river Howliah running out of the river Pudmah branches itself into two currents—Kumar and Matabhanga below Boalia. The Kumar, which is the natural boundary of the Chooadangah and Kushtea Sub-Divisions, flows below Allamdangah, Gossain Durgapur &c., and the Matabhanga taking a tortuous course through Chooadangah flowed into the Ichamuti below Kissengunge. But the Irrigation Department has obviated tortuosity by connecting its bends with each other by canals. During the dry months the Kumar has scarcely knee-deep water, and yet for the benefit of the Kishengunge Ferry toll its source is blocked up every cold season below Boalia, thus causing the diversion of the whole water into the new canal. In this way the Kumar becomes a stagnant pool of knee-deep water overgrown with weeds. During *Choit* lots of dead bodies of cholera patients are thrown into it to which the authorities though repeatedly informed, pay no heed. The result has been the death of thousands of the people living on both sides of the Kumar. Is this stoppage of a natural water-course lawful? We have some more grievance. The Road Cess here amounts to nearly Rs. 3000, whereas the allotment is Rs. 1000 only and yet Mr. Anderson says, he will not spend more. But why not? We beg to invite Mr. Peacock's attention to the wretched state of Halsa Gossain Durgapur Road for want of proper repairs and a sufficient number of culverts. There are no village roads in Magurah and no attention is given to the matter though repeatedly brought to notice. The only road cess member for Gossain Durgapur is dead. There ought to be at least two working members for Gossain Durgapur and Magurah.

The miserable state of the Tanks at Forsdah, as noticed by me in the *Patriot* sometime ago, ought to be taken into consideration.

WE HAVE received the first two numbers of a controversial polemical monthly entitled "*The Nirapeksha Dhurma Tutwa*" or the Impartial Religious Enquirer, in Bengali. It is distributed *gratis* and published by a Sabha of the same name called *Nirapeksha Dhurma Sancharini*, established at 141 Baranusy Ghose's Street, Calcutta. The object of the publication is to defend Hinduism from the attacks of its opponents.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SECRETARY, writing to a Manchester gentleman in reply to an inquiry whether there was any truth in the statement recently circulated that he was about to take the title of Earl of Liverpool, states that he is directed by Mr. Gladstone to say that there is no truth in the statement that he is about to be raised to the peerage.

THURSDAY, 15TH DECEMBER.

IT IS STATED that a spiritualist paper, to be called the *Psychic Facts*, will be started in Calcutta in January next. It will be issued every fortnight.

MR. A. BURUAH, of the Bengal Civil Service, proposes to offer, for public competition in India, an annual prize of Rs. 200 for five years for the production of the best Sanskrit essay on the following subjects :—For 1882.—History of Sanskrit rhetorical literature and its importance in the historical study of Sanskrit literature. For 1883.—History and precepts of *Tantars* and their influence on Hindu life. For 1884.—Dress, furniture, and amusements of ancient or pre-Mahomedan India among the various classes at various periods. For 1885.—Coins, measures and weights. For 1886.—Hindu astronomical instruments, their construction, history, and use.

THE SADHARANI BRAHMO SUMAJ has presented a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor anent the Bogra Sunkirtun case. Apart from the Brahmo element, the case is of general importance to the public.

MR. E. B. EASTWICK in a letter to the *Times* says :

I happened to be a guest of His Highness the Maharaja of Punnah when Miss Beilby was there, and I wish to bear my humble testimony to the value and importance of her visit. No doubt the rich and benevolent are at times uncertain where to bestow their charities to the best advantage. I can assure them that in supporting Miss Beilby and the sisterhood of which she is a conspicuous member, they will not only be doing incalculable good from a charitable point of view, and will be binding together two great nations whose union is of infinite advantage to themselves and to the whole world. I hope the fact will not be overlooked that India is so vast and its need of female practitioners so great that it is impossible that its requirements should be satisfied by European agency alone, and that it is very desirable that attempts should be made to educate Indian women as nurses and doctors.

The Indian midwives trained in the Medical College have been of great service to the native community of Calcutta.

THE SUDDEN order by which the adoption of Madras time was forced upon all Government establishments in Bombay from the 1st December has it appears produced much confusion. When the mid-day gun is fired, it is half past eleven in the adjoining High Court : the Port Trust keeps one time; the Municipality another ; the Dockyard clocks are Liberal, the P. & O. Company's Conservative. Where was the necessity for these changes? It appears to be a hobby of Sir James Fergusson.

THE PIONEER makes the following remarks on the last Entrance Examination papers of the Calcutta University :

We have before us some of the papers set for the Calcutta University Entrance Examination, which has just come to an end. Ten questions are set on "English language ;" ten on "English ;" eight on "History." "English language" seems a misapplication of terms. for the questions asked of the candidates imply a knowledge of English, European and American history, and various other subjects which a young foreigner, able to speak and write English and correctly enough for all practical purposes, might be quite ignorant of.

Our contemporary gives several examples in support of his position.

FRIDAY, 16TH DECEMBER.

THE PRESS COMMISSIONER'S Office informs us that the Amir-i-Kabir, co-regent at Hyderabad, died on Monday last after a long illness. This was the nobleman, who instituted the libel suit against Mr. Knight, the editor of the London *Statesman*.

THE TOTAL amount realized up to date by the sale of Bengal opium up to date including pass duty on Bombay opium is according to the Press Commissioner's return, Rs. 7,233,812. The amount estimated was Rs. 6,12,31,000, so the receipts are better than the estimates by Rs. 1,11,07,072. Perhaps on the strength of this surplus the cotton duties will be abolished.

THE TOTAL amount of the Home remittances of the Government of India to the end of November was Rs. 12,93,23,000 and the loss by exchange amounted to Rs. 2,26,37,510. Shouldn't the opium surplus be applied to cover the loss by exchange?

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following Resolutions passed at a meeting held at Santipore :

1. That a memorial be presented to his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, representing the desirability of commencing the construction of the projected railway lines from Ranaghat to Bugwangola through Santipore, and from Santipore to Mimaree.
2. That the Lieutenant-Governor be petitioned for the introduction of the elective system in the constitution of the Santipore municipality.
3. That a petition be submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for having a charitable despensary at the place on a larger scale than at present, and if necessary, asking for aid from the provincial fund to meet the necessary expenses
4. That the local Government be asked to sanction the establishment of a Moonsiff's Court at Santipore, for the convenience of the inhabitants of Santipore and its adjoining villages.
5. That a sub-committee be appointed for the purpose of drawing up the necessary memorials.

The meeting concluded with a speech by the chairman.

Baboo Nabinkrisha Banarjee Zemindar of Mooradpore, delivered a very able and eloquent speech on the advantage of the elective system.

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SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER.

IT IS stated that a Commission in the Guards is to be given to the eldest son of the Prince of Wales on his return from his present voyage.

THE FOLLOWING is from our Krishnaghur correspondent :

The Epidemic Fever Commission of Nuddea lately appointed by Government have commenced their work. After inpecting the afflicted areas of the Sudder Station they invited on the 15th instant some of the respectable inhabitants of the town to take their opinion as to the causes of the outbreak. Amongst those examined were two important witnesses Babu Kalichurn Lahuri, a medical practitioner of great intelligence and vast experience, and Babu Rammeshur Nath, a retired Executive Engineer. The former handed over to the President of the Commission a printed copy of the memorial presented to the Presidency Commissioner last year and offered some valuable suggestions. According to this witness the epidemic fever had its rise in Godakhally a village situate on a marshy channel called Hurbara, a branch of the Betna River, in 1236. It appears from the statement of an old resident that the Godakhally malaria originated in Nuldanga in Jessore fifty-eight years ago and travelled to Godakhally between Jessore and Nuddea whence it proceeded to places in the Bengal and Ranaghat Sub-divisions of the Nuddea District and finally to Krishnaggur, first some 17 years ago and afterwards in last and the present year. The Doctor expressed his opinion that the Commission should visit Godakhally first. At Krishnaggur the witness above-named pointed to the Anjuna marsh as the place where the fever originated. The remedies suggested are the clearing of the channel of the river Anjuna and providing another channel with a sluice at the head of the same stagnant stream to obviate the defect of a length of about two miles of the river having a higher level than its ordinary flood level. The Engineer gave his idea of the cost of the two works at Rs. 50,000 each.

ANOTHER correspondent writing from Bagrally in the Nuddea District observes with reference to the proposal of connecting the Anjona with the river Churni by means of a canal that, instead of commencing this canal through Chaprabil it would be more useful and less expensive if it were connected with a khal already in existence and passing by the villages of Nadurnea, Gopalpore, Dhormood, Arbandi, Patuli, Bulluvpore, Badkulla, Gagni, Gouripore, Chonndah, Mugrali, and others. The khal will then supply fresh water to a large body of malaria-ridden population and entail less expense upon the provincial revenue.

A THIRD correspondent from the Nuddea district invites the attention of the Nuddea Fever Commission to the condition of the village Belgachi in the Choadangah Sub-Division. The causes of the prevalence of malarious fever he attributes to the use of foul tank water, obstruction of drainage, growth of jungle and other insanitary conditions.

THERE WERE 397 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 10th December, of which 101 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 100 from fevers, 52 from bowel-complaints, 3 from accidents, 11 from lung diseases, 28 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Fifteen children were still-born, 50 died at the age of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 72 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 20. The average of daily mortality was 56·7. Now that the cold weather has fairly set in, we hope there will be abatement of cholera.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London December 11th.—The London papers state that Sir Henry Havelock Allen has resigned the Aldershot command owing to ill health. The Lord Mayor of London has appealed for a National Subscription in order to support the rights of property in Ireland.

12th.—General Sir Dighton Probyn has declined to accept a command in India.

15th.—The Queen has subscribed 200 pounds to the distress fund being raised for the Irish ladies.

16th.—The police have sized a week's issue of the *United Ireland* newspaper in Dublin and arrested the remainder of the staff.

14th.—The *Standard* publishes a telegram from Teheran that Ayub with his family and twenty sardars and adherents is in Kaisan.

Washington, December 12th.—Mr. James, Post Master General, has resigned. Mr. Frelinghuysen is appointed Secretary of State, *vice* Mr. Blain, resigned. Despatches have been published, in which the United Sates Government warns Chili and Peru against invoking European intervention, which would produce more active intervention on the part of America, and strongly urges upon Chili the settlement of disputes without any annexation of territory.

13th.—Later despatches state that Mr. Blaine has been sent as special envoy from the United States Government to ask Chili to explain the arrest and removal of Senor Calderon President of the Peruvian republic.

Tunis December 11th.—Continual heavy rains and floods stop military operations,

14th.—The Tunisian authorities have forcibly expelled the levies of workmen installed by the French at Enfida.

Vienna December 11th—The official account of the burning of the Ring theatre states that 907 people are missing.

Paris, December 13th.—Negociations in connexion with the commercial treaty with England were resumed to day. Sir Charles Dilke was absent. Count Chandordy has been appointed French Amassador at St. Petersburg *vice* Generat Chauzy.

14th.—The French clerical journals state that the Pope's position is intolerable, and the question is seriously mooted whether His Holiness should leave Rome.

15th.—Henrie Rochefort, charged with libelling Roustan, has been acquitted, His acquittal has caused a great sensation.

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SAYS THE WEEKIST in this *Evening's Englishman*, as the Assam Emigration Bill "is urgently required in the interest of the tea planters and all owners of tea shares and property, I wonder that the Council consented to pay any attention to a memorial which was evidently presented more for the purpose of delaying the passing of the Act than for any other object." We fully share this wonder. The law is wanted for some five thousand English tea shareholders, and the protection of the millions of the people should certainly yield to such a potent demand. We subscribe, too, to the remark that "when the leopard can change his spots, then we may believe that a Bengali absentee landlord takes any interest in the dwellers on his property beyond what is to be got out of them." The law provides that any one can seize and carry away any native to any place he likes on the allegation of the said native being a runaway cooly, and this without any process from a court of law, or any Police officer; in other words the shareholders require the American Fugitive Slave Law in India, and the churls of the British Indian Association—the leopards who cannot change their spots—do not perceive the benefits which their ryots will derive thereby. Could obtuseness any further go? It was Legree who thoroughly understood the salutary effects of the law, and we despair of the native landlords ever perceiving it. There is another advantage to be had by the law, which the Weekist does not allude to. We mean the encouragement it will afford to trade. A new business will soon be started, that of importing blood hounds. Legree found those animals very useful in tracking his runaway mistress and they will be equally so in hunting fugitive coolies. Surely after that there should be no hesitation in passing the Bill at once.

FOR WANT of space we are obliged to hold over till next week a letter giving particulars of certain oppressions committed in a salt case near Calcutta.

WE ARE requested to announce that the Revd. J. G. Gregson will deliver a lecture on "Drink and modern civilization" at the Band of Hope at the Albert Hall on Tuesday next at 8 P. M.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of a new paper entitled "Reis and Rayyet." As the prospectus says, "it will be an Indian paper for all India." We wish the projectors success.

WE HAVE received an appeal from the Society of the Sisters of the Poor in this city. We commend it to the charitably-disposed.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE below the receipt of a poetical primer in Bengali entitled, "Niti Munjuri," by Babu Surjikumar Adhicari, B. A. It contains moral lessons in verse, and is well adapted to be introduced into our elementary schools for both boys and girls.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. A Manual of the Geology of India, Part III., Economic Geology. By V. Ball, M. A. F. G. S. Officiating Deputy Superintendent, Geological Survey of India. 2. Report on the Cotton Production and Trade of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for 1880-81. 3. Annual Report on Inland Emigration for 1880-81. 4. Report on the Administration of the License Tax in Bengal for 1880-81. 5. Education—A letter to the Viceroy and Governor General of India &c. &c. By John Murdoch, L.L.D. Indian Agent of the Christian Vernacular Education Society for India. 6. Brief Summary of the Meteorology of Bengal, 1880. 7. Cook's Indian Tours. 8. Messrs. Graham & Co's. Card Almanac of the London and Lancashire Life Assurance Company for 1882. 9. Card Almanac of the Universal Life Assurance Society with accounts of the Society and its business for 1882. 10. Aids in Arithmetical calculations including short methods of extracting Squares and Cube Roots of large numbers. By H. Bull, Civil Engineer. 11. Papers connected with the Punjab University Question collected and published by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association, Lahore. 12. Messrs Thacker and Co.'s Bombay Catalogue of new and Standard Books, for 1881. 13. Report on the Administration of Pudukota for 1880-81. 14. The Stationary Trades Journal No. 21, November, 1881. 15. Messrs. John Dickenson and Co.'s monthly Price List of Printing Paper, Cards &c. for December, 1881. 16. Bunga Durshana for Assar, 1288 B. E. 17. Christia Mohila or the Christian Woman, a Bengali monthly for November 1881. 18. Ramayana in Sanskrit and Bengali No. 5, published by Protapchunder Roy and distributed *gratis*. 19. Niti Munjuri. By Surji Kumar Adhicari. B. A.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1881.

THE SLAVE BILL DEFERRED.

THANKS to Maharaja Jotindra Mohun Tagore the Slave Bill, as we are constrained to call the Assam Emigration Bill, which we noticed last week, has been deferred. Understanding that the Bill would be passed last Thursday the British Indian Association applied for time for the submission of a memorial on behalf of the labouring population, saying that the Bengali translation of the Bill did not appear in the Bengal Government *Gazette* until the 25th October last, and that the bulk of the native community of Bengal had not had a sufficient opportunity to consider the Bill, that the Bill was not of such a pressing nature as to require its immediate passing, and that it should therefore be republished in the *Gazette* for general information with at least a month's time to the public to send up representations. In reply the Legislative Secretary wrote to the British Indian Association to say that it could not justly be said that the public had not had a full opportunity to consider the Bill, inasmuch as the Bill of the Commission appointed by Government on the subject, on the lines of which the Bill before the Legislative Council was based, had been published in the *Calcutta Gazette* in January last, and that the Indian Tea Association had represented that if the passing of the Bill should be delayed beyond the close of the current year it would cause the tea-planters throughout Assam serious inconvenience and loss. Under the circumstances the Viceroy in Council could not comply with the prayer of the Association for the postponement of the Bill. This reply was received by the Association late Tuesday night. On Wednesday following the Association hurriedly forwarded a memorial on the subject of the Bill with an explanatory note, saying that although the Bill of the Commission had been published in the *Calcutta Gazette* in January last, it had not then received the *imprimatur* of the Government of India, that the Association could not therefore accept it as the measure adopted by Government, and that they therefore refrained from commenting upon it, that the Bengali translation of the bill was not published until the 25th October last, and that the vast majority of the Native public most interested in the measure had not had the Bill before them for more than a month and a half, that if the Indian Tea Association wanted the Bill to be passed before the close of this year it might be deferred at least for a short time to give the Council time to consider their memorial, and they therefore again prayed for the postponement of the Bill. They added that "their sole object was to submit an examination of the Bill on behalf of a class of their fellow-countrymen, admittedly ignorant, weak, and helpless, and knowing as they do how anxious is His Excellency in Council to do justice to all classes, they were and are confident that though late their representation would receive a hearing."

And it gives us great pleasure to announce that their prayer has been heard. The Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotindromohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. moved that the Bill be referred back to the Select Committee for the consideration of the memorial of the British Indian Association. The Maharaja thus spoke in support of his motion:

My Lord,—I deem it my duty to submit to this Council the fact that native opinion is strong in thinking that the present Bill is extremely one-sided, and that many of its provisions will operate with great harshness on the poor labouring classes of their countrymen. If this conviction gains ground, and the idea of the extreme severity of the law gets abroad among the masses, I am afraid it will be injurious to the tea-planters themselves, at whose instance, I believe, the present Bill was introduced, for the poor and ignorant classes of the people will fight shy of all connection with tea-gardens, under an exaggerated apprehension of mischief, and contractors and garden sirdars will find it difficult to get recruits unless they

practice upon the people the grossest deception, which cannot possibly be the object of the Legislature to countenance even in the remotest manner. But such, I fear, would be the result if this Bill is passed into law in its present form, some of the principal provisions of the Bill, which it is apprehended, will operate harshly towards the labourer have been noticed in the memorial of the British Indian Association, and I would take the liberty, with your Lordship's permission, to move that the Bill may be referred back to the Select Committee for a short time, for re-consideration, with special reference to that memorial, for it is but fair that the other side should also have a fair hearing. I am aware that the Tea Planters' Association have submitted a representation stating that their interest will suffer materially if the Bill be not passed into law by the end of the month; but I submit that if the Select Committee were to report in a week's time, I do not think there can be any objection to my suggestion being accepted.

The Hon'ble Mr. Thompson thus replied:

The memorial of the British Indian Association to which reference had been made by the Maharajah had only been placed in his hands yesterday evening at 5 o'clock. It contained a great many suggestions; but, evidently from imperfect knowledge, it also contained a great many misconceptions regarding the operations of the different sections of the Bill, which he could very readily explain if he were to go somewhat into details. He had, no doubt, however, that the greater part of the mistakes were due to the hurry with which the memorial had been prepared. However, as the Hon'ble Member represented that the subject had not been considered from the point of view of the British Indian Association, which was one of the leading representative institutions of the country, he had, after consultation, that morning, with His Excellency the President, acceded to the postponement of the consideration of the motion against his name for a short period only, on the condition that the Bill would be taken up for consideration immediately after His Excellency's return from Burmah, He therefore moved for the re-commitment of the Bill to the Select Committee, to which, he also moved, the Hon'ble Maharajah Jotindro Mohun Tagore and the Hon'ble A. B. Inglis should be added.

His Excellency the Viceroy said:

His Excellency the President said that it seemed to him that the course suggested by the Hon'ble Mover of the Bill, who had just spoken, was the right one to adopt under the circumstances. The questions had been very carefully considered, and it was quite a mistake to suppose that equal consideration had not been given to the interests of both parties who would be affected by the legislation; yet, on the other hand, His Excellency thought it would be most undesirable that any portion of the public, particularly those who were least able to represent their views in the case, should labour under that impression, and it was for those reasons, therefore, that he entirely concurred, that the Bill should be re-committed to the Select Committee on the distinct understanding that the Committee's report should be taken into consideration upon the first meeting of the Council after His return from Burmah, which would probably be on the 5th of January next.

All honor to the Council for this decision. Maharaja Jotindromohun Tagore has laid his countrymen under a fresh debt of gratitude by lending his tongue to the voiceless labouring classes of his countrymen. Were it not for the weight which is justly attached to any thing that falls from him, we fear there was little chance of a hearing being granted to the representation made on behalf of the poor labourers. He has been added to the Select Committee, and he will doubtless say all that has to be said respecting the grievances of the labourers, and even if he does not succeed, still he will have done his duty, and the dumb millions will bless him with both hands. We must also accord our thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Thompson for the fair spirit in which he met the Maharaja's motion. We said last week that he is well known as a zealous friend of humanity, and we feel confident that if he could be convinced of the injustice and harshness of the provisions of the Bill he will do justice to the poor cooly. Lord Ripon acceded to the motion for the postponement of the Bill solely for the sake of the poor labouring classes, and in doing so his Lordship has fully justified our expectation. In his own country his Lordship used to take a lively interest in the welfare of the poor operatives, and one of his first acts here has been the passing of the factory law in the interest of the factory labourers. His Lordship is therefore

sure to consider all that may be urged on behalf of the poor labouring classes, who will come under this Bill. We have great faith in his Lordship's sense of justice and righteousness, and we cannot believe that His Lordship will seal with his sanction any one-sided measure.

THE SLAVE BILL EXAMINED.

FOR detailed criticism of the Slave Bill we must refer the reader to the memorial of the British Indian Association, which we publish below. The main argument of the Association is that the Bill is one-sided, and they prove this assertion from the statement of the objects and reasons annexed to the Bill. They point out that the Commission, which prepared the Bill, was composed of planters and officials, some, if not all of whom, there is a suspicion in the native mind, might be interested in tea. There was not a single native member on the Commission to represent the interest of the labouring population. The recommendations made by the Commission shewed that they had prepared the Bill from the planter's stand-point alone. The Bill as presented to the Council was framed on the lines laid down by the Commission. The Bill was introduced at Simla and the only native member of the Council, the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. had therefore no opportunity to speak upon it. The Select Committee had no native member upon it, and as they concluded their labours at Simla, the Bill was practically settled without any representation of native opinion. Mr. Thompson has now supplied the omission by adding the Maharaja to the Select Committee. As regards the Bill itself we gave our opinion last week on its distinctive features. We will notice again a few salient points of the Bill. This Bill professes to encourage free emigration; it provides, "nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prohibit any native of India from emigrating to, or entering into a contract to labour in, any labour district otherwise than under the provisions of this Act." The question of free emigration was raised by the Government of India upon the report of the Famine Commission. The object of Government in encouraging free emigration is to attract the surplus population of over-peopled districts to the soil of Assam. This is doubtless a laudable and benevolent object, but the question is whether the conditions of labour in Assam are such as not to call for a protective law in the interest of the labourer. The Government has practically decided in the affirmative by entertaining this Bill, and yet it leaves the fate of the free labourer to the ordinary law, which for many reasons has not full and fair scope in the outlying districts of Assam, This is our objection to this part of the Bill. Then the Bill extends the term of contract under the Act from three to five years. This question had been before discussed by Government and decided in the negative. So late as May 1880 Sir Steuart Bayley, the then Chief Commissioner of Assam, in reporting on the petition of the Indian Tea Districts Association, London, wrote against the proposed extension of the term of the contract from three to five years. He said, "the power of change after three years' service and the high bonus given for re enlistment are elements of importance in the attractions set before the immigrant in default of which he may very probably require higher wages for the extended period." And what were the reasons for the prayer of the Tea Districts Association? They represented that "it has for some time become manifest to those engaged in the growth of tea in India, that not only is its preservation as a fairly remunerative investment in danger, but that its continued existence as one of the staple industries of the country is menaced by the great and increasing difficulties and drawbacks which attend its prosecution. That the pressure of these burdens has become greater than the industry can bear, and survive in a healthy condition, is sufficiently shown by the steadily decreasing profits realized for some years past by those estates most favoured by natural conditions and management, while in the case of by far the larger proportion there have been no profits, and in too many instances heavy losses accumulating from year to year." And the loss should be made up by cutting down the remuneration of the poor labourer by extending the term of his contract from three to five years! The Government of India was then opposed to the extension. In its reply to Sir Steuart Bayley dated the 24th June 1880 it remarked: "It must not be forgotten that the prolongation of the term of indenture would impair the prospects of the new hands, and thus tend to make recruitment more difficult and the actual cost of labour higher." But the Government has since changed its opinion and assented to the extension of the term of the contract from three to five years! Then under Section 9 the labour contract will contain all particulars except those on which specific information would be most useful to the labourer, viz., the tasks of labour, that is to say the nature of labour, and the price of rations. The tasks of labour will be settled after the labourer has signed away his liberty and has been taken to the labour-district. The supply of rations to the labourer except for the first three months of his arrival at the labour district is nowhere compulsory in the Bill. The coolies at Mauritius receive wages and rations separately, and why should not the same provision apply to labourers in Assam? Again, the labour district is to be named in the contract, but not the estate on which the labourer is to be employed, except at his own request, but knowing as we do how ignorant is the cooly, do we exaggerate when we say that he will have no voice but will be distributed like a chattel? As regards the contract it is not to be *explained* to the contractor's labourer at the time of registration, but on his arrival at the depot, but at that time he will not be allowed the option of refusing to sign it. Section 148 says that if any registered labourer engaged by a recruiter should within thirty days refuse without reasonable cause to sign the contract, he may be fined, and in default imprisoned. It may be easily imagined that once the labourer is registered it will be difficult for him to get out of the bond. In the case of the labourer engaged by a garden sardar no one is required at any stage to explain the contract to the labourer. Then section 133 provides that if any labourer wishes to prefer a complaint against personal ill-usage or breach of law, he must make a statement to that effect to his employer, who shall forthwith send him to the Inspector or the Magistrate. In other words the aggrieved labourer must first bring his complaint to the notice of his employer, for permission to proceed to the Magistrate, and how mightily will the master be pleased with such a complainant! Will the poor cooly have the courage to go up to his employer and tell to his face that he means to prefer a complaint against him before the Magistrate for ill-usage? Is any other labourer, is any servant or amla required to take his employer's permission to lay a complaint against him? Is not this a badge of slavery? Then if ten labourers should make a joint complaint, the employer should send a notice to the Magistrate. Is not this requiring the complainant to make his complaint through the unnatural channel of the accused? Why should not the aggrieved be allowed the common right of preferring his complaint direct to the Magistrate? Again, Section 171 says that a deserter may be arrested without warrant, either by the employer or any one acting on his behalf, if found within five miles of the residence of a Magistrate. Under the old law the distance was ten miles, but the reduction of distance has doubtless been made from an impartial consideration of the interests of both employer and labourer! But it is not the reduction of area we object to—we maintain that an arrest of any person without a warrant on the pretext of his being a deserter by a planter's servant is a most objectionable provision. It is as we remarked last week a page taken out of the fugitive slave law of America. If Assam is exceptionally situated, exceptional care ought to be taken for the protection of the liberty of the poor labourer. But far from that being the case the Bill is worse than the existing law. Would the reader believe it that the man, who would thus wrongfully deprive another person of his liberty, would be let off with a fine not exceeding Rs. 50? The Penal Code provides for criminal imprisonment varying from one year's to three years' imprisonment for wrongful restraint. We have not space for further remarks in this issue.

THE PROTEST OF THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION AGAINST THE SLAVE BILL.

WE give below the memorial of the British Indian Association regarding the Assam Emigration Bill:

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

The humble memorial of the British Indian Association.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have carefully perused the Bill entitled a Bill to amend the law relating to Emigration to the Labour Districts of Bengal and Assam, together with the Bill as amended by the Select Committee appointed to report thereon, and to submit the following remarks and suggestions for the consideration of your Excellency in Council.

2. This Bill, it appears, has been introduced at the instance of "certain persons interested in the large and important Tea Industry in Assam." On receiving a representation from them the Government of India referred the subject to the consideration of a Commission. The Commission was composed of members of the mercantile community of Calcutta and tea interest in Assam, as well as of official members under each of those administration especially conversant with the details of inland emigration. There was not a single native gentleman appointed to this Commission as a representative of the interest of labourers. The Commission, thus exclusively constituted, has, it would seem, viewed the subject from the tea planter's stand-point alone. The main points on which the Commission find the present law to be defective, and the changes which they recommend with the view of removing the defects noticed by them, show in what light they have pursued their labours. These points are thus set forth in the statement of objects and reasons annexed to the Bill:—

(a.) That the existing law does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration;

(b) that it imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sardari recruiting;

(c.) that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts made otherwise than under its provisions even in the case of imported labourers;

(d) that it is defective in respect of the remedies provided for employers in the event of the unlawful absence idleness or desertion of their contract labourers.

3. All these points, it will be seen, include the interests of the tea planters, and as the Bill now before your Excellency's Council is based upon the lines of the draft Bill prepared by the Commission, it is necessarily one-sided. As the hon'ble mover of the Bill says, this Bill "differs considerably in form, but does not, it is believed, in substance differ materially (save in certain points which will be mentioned below) from the draft prepared by the Commission." It cannot be denied that the law to which this Bill relates is exceptional in its character—exceptional in principle procedure, and practical tendency. When the Labour Contract Act of 1870 was before the Bengal Legislative Council, in comparing the labourer going to Assam with the labourer going to Mauritius, the then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir William Grey, remarked: "The cases seemed to him to be exactly the same; the coolies in both cases were taken to a country far from their home. He might even go the length of saying that to a Hindustanee cooly Assam was a more foreign country than Mauritius, which was full of his own class of people. He was taken to either place to be dependent on his employer for every thing—for every sort of case that man could want."

4. Such being the case, Your Memorialists appeal to your Excellency in Council to consider whether in a question like this there is room for free action of two such opposite principles as free emigration and restricted emigration. After fully considering all the circumstances attending labour on the estates in Assam the Legislature may adopt one principle or the other; either it may admit free emigration without let or hindrance, or it may regulate emigration under certain well-devised precautions, checks, and restrictions. But to sanction both is, in the humble opinion of your memorialists, to contradict the conditions on which the necessity of legislation on the subject is founded. If the time has arrived for free emigration, there can be no need for restriction, for the one is as opposed to the other as darkness to light, but the introduction of the Bill shews that there is necessity for restriction. In that view your memorialists submit that the provision for free emigration ought to be withdrawn. Section 7 says "save as provided in Section 5 (which authorizes Local Government to prohibit emigration to any labour district or part thereof), nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prohibit any native of India from emigrating to, or entering into a contract to labour in, a labour-district otherwise than under the provisions of this Act." This Section holds out a free scope to free emigration, and with the latitude thus given a labour-importer, if he chooses, can steer clear of all the restrictions imposed by the Bill. It cannot, your memorialists respectfully submit, be consistent with reason or good policy to arm the employer of labour with power to set at nought the provisions of the law at his own will.

5. As regards restricted emigration there will be under the Bill three agencies at work, viz.,—I., the contractor and his recruiter, II, the garden sardar, and III, the local agent, who under Section 62 may be specially licensed to engage labourers on behalf of any employer without the intervention of the garden sirdar. But the obligations and liabilities of these three classes of agents are by no means uniform, though their priveleges and powers are the same. Thus all of them are empowered to engage any number of labourers, and to supply them to any employer. Under the existing law the contractor alone has a right to engage labourers without limitation of number, the garden sirdar can engage labours up to 20, while the local agent has no legal status. But under the present Bill all the three as regards the engagement of labourers are placed on an equal footing. But their obligations are different. Thus under Section 19 contractors must establish depots for the accommodation of labourers, and under Section 72 must contribute towards

the establishment and maintenance of Hospital Depots for the benefit of labourers. But no such obligation is imposed on the garden sardar. He may engage any number of labourers, but he will not be required to establish depots, which means accommodation on a proper scale. In the case of the contractor the depot must be inspected and approved first by the Superintendent and Medical Inspector before labourers will be permitted to remove to the same, whereas the garden sardar will have (*vide* Section 57) "to provide sufficient and proper accommodation," which must necessarily be of an inferior description, and this accommodation will not be subject to medical inspection approval and supervision; the Magistrate or any Subordinate Magistrate or a Police officer above the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police "may visit and inspect the accommodation at any time," that is to say, not necessarily before the arrival of labourers. Then, again, the garden sardar will not be required to provide hospital accommodation, medical treatment or medicine for labourers engaged by him. Again, the procedure prescribed for the registration of labourers engaged by the contractor and the garden-sirdar is also different. Every labourer whom a recruiter under a contractor may desire to engage must be taken before a medical officer for examination, and if certified by him to be physically fit for employment, he is then to be brought before the Magistrate or Superintendent, who shall examine the labourer with reference to his labour contract. The Magistrate or Superintendent, if satisfied, shall then register the intending labourer. The labourer is not to be removed to depot until he is certified and registered. On arrival at depot there will be a second medical examination. The Medical Inspector at the depot (*vide* section 40) shall examine the labourer and his dependants (if any) to ascertain that they are in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour district to which they intend to proceed. If the medical inspector certifies to the health of the labourer, the Superintendent shall personally explain to him the labour contract before execution. All these precautions are not however required in the case of labourers engaged by a garden sardar. There is to be no compulsory medical examination of the labourer before registration. If the Magistrate is satisfied that a labourer brought by a garden sirdar is competent to enter into a contract and understands the nature of the same, he shall register the labourer, but he may before registration refer the intending labourer to medical examination in case the latter should appear not to be in a fit state of health. There is to be no second medical examination before execution of labour contract. When the labourer is registered, he shall execute the contract. There is no provision requiring the Magistrate to explain the contract to the labourer as is provided in the case of a labourer engaged by the recruiter of a contractor. It is true that before registration the Magistrate shall satisfy himself that the labourer understands the contract, but it is not obligatory upon him to explain the contract. A contractor will not be competent to remove a labourer to a labour district until a second medical examination of the labourer at the depot and until the execution of the labour contract, but the garden sirdar will be competent to remove the labourer to a labour district as soon as he is registered under Section 66.

The grounds for the invidious distinction made between the contractor and garden sirdar as regards the procedure to be followed by them respectively are not apparent. If both will be at liberty to engage labourers *ad libitum*, the obligations and liabilities of both ought to be the same. If the precautions prescribed in the case of the contractor have been suggested by a humane examination for the labourer, surely the same consideration ought to apply to the labourer, who may be engaged by the garden sirdar. It comes to this that either there is or not necessity for those precautions, if they are necessary, and it cannot be denied that they are necessary, they ought to be enforced with an equal hand. To enforce them in one case and not to do so in the other would not only be unequal legislation, but would practically encourage the engagement of labourers through an agency, which would be less expensive and irksome, because it is less controlled, and therefore more liable to abuse.

The local agents, if they engage labourers direct, will be liable to the provisions prescribed for garden-sardars so far as the same are applicable to them. This is somewhat indefinite, but the same objections that apply to the relaxation of the restrictions of the Bill in the case of garden-sardars apply equally to local agents. Your memorialists repeat it cannot be consistent with sound policy to open three agencies for the engagement of labourers with equal privileges but with unequal responsibilities. The unrestricted two will be the real working agencies, and the restricted one will practically be inoperative, and the consequence will be that all those evils and abuses, for the removal of which the different laws regarding cooly labour in Assam have been from time to time enacted, will be brought back without a check.

Your memorialists will now comment on some of the detailed provisions of the Bill. Section 9 says that every labour contract shall specify

(a) the name of the labourer and his employer;
(b) the term for which the labourer is to labour;
(c) his monthly wages in money;
(d) the labour district in which, and, if the labourer so require, the estate on which he is to labour.

The term of the contract is extended from three to five years. No facts have been adduced to show the necessity for this extension. When labourers are at liberty to renew their contract after the expiration of three years, and if they should so renew the contract, they would do so with a full knowledge of the conditions of labour, it will be extremely hard if the term of the engagement of labourers be *per force* extended from three to five years. When the question was first raised the term of five years was strongly objected to on many grounds, and nothing has transpired since to support their extension now proposed.

The minimum amount of wages of labourers for the first three years has been fixed at Rs. 5, and for the last two years at Rs. 6 per month, without any provision for rations. Act VI of 1865, however, had prescribed the minimum wages and the price of the rice to be supplied by the labourer of the employer. The last provision was done away with by the Act of 1879 on the ground that it was an interference with the laws of free trade. The principle of free trade cannot apply to places where shops are non-existent or so remotely situated as to practically amount to non-existence. Moreover, wages depend upon prices, and where the wages are fixed by law it is meet and proper that provision should also be made by law against the rise and fall of the chief staple of life. Without it the life of the labourers would be unsupportable. But the principle of this law as already observed is exceptional. The Labour Act of Mauritius provides for both, and the position of the labourer in Assam is by no means different from that of the labourer in Mauritius.

Again, the Bill provides for the determination of tasks of labour after the contract is executed and the labourer is actually employed. It is necessary and meet that the labourer should know the nature of the work he is required to perform before he enters into contract. Your memorialists would therefore suggest that the tasks of labour should be specified in the contract.

Further, your memorialists are humbly of opinion that the labourer ought not to be distributed like a chattel. The estate on which he may be engaged ought to be invariably specified in the contract. If an experienced man he will be able to judge whether he should take service under a particular employer.

Section 32 says that the Magistrate or Superintendent shall examine the labourer with reference to his intended contract before registration. This is the most important stage. It is necessary that the nature and terms of the contract should be explained to him at this stage. But it is not made obligatory on any person to do so.

Section 41.—After arrival at depot if the medical inspector gives a certificate of physical fitness the labourer shall within thirty days after his arrival execute the contract. The next Section provides that the Superintendent shall personally explain to the labourer but no option is given to the labourer to refuse to execute it. This your memorialists submit would be hard. At the first stage the contract will not be explained to him, but a sort of passive enquiry will be held by the Magistrate or Superintendent, and it may be easily imagined whether ignorant persons like the labourers would be able to understand fully their position. When the contract is really explained to them, surely an opportunity ought to be allowed to them to exercise their judgment freely, that is to say whether they should or should not enter into the contract.

Section 42 provides that the contract shall be explained to the labourer, but then he will have no option to refuse to sign it. Your Memorialists submit that too much care cannot be taken to secure a full and proper explanation of the contract to the labourer. It is well known that in many cases the coolies are induced to enrol themselves under hopes and promises, the real character of which they have means or opportunities of testing until they have actually signed away their liberty, and have had practical experience of their new condition. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the labourer should in the first instance be made to understand thoroughly the nature of his proposed contract. It is not enough as this section provides that the Magistrate or the Superintendent should in a passive way be satisfied that the labourer understands his contract; he should actively question him on the point, and explain to each labourer separately all the particulars appertaining thereto. But this work, your memorialists respectfully submit, can be discharged efficiently only by an officer, who has sufficient time at his disposal and a familiar acquaintance with the language of the people and their modes of thought. For obvious reasons a Native Deputy Magistrate acting under the supervision of the District Magistrate would be better suited for this business. In order to secure proper attention on this point he should be requested to certify that he has questioned and explained to each labourer all the conditions of his contract.

Section 43 enumerates the circumstances under which the Superintendent may cancel the labour contract. When the labourer after his arrival at depot becomes unfit to proceed and when the medical inspector certifies that he did not represent himself fit to undertake the journey, the Superintendent may cancel the contract. But in many cases the labourer may emigrate with his whole family, and it will disturb his plan of life, if any of his dependants fall ill and be unable to proceed. If in such a case the labourer should wish to return home, it would be both humane and just to grant his prayer.

Section 47. *Vide* remarks on Section 43.

Section 57.—As in the case of the contractor's depot, the accommodation to be provided by the garden sirdar should be first approved by the Magistrate before the labourers permitted to be quartered in it.

Section 59 provides. "any Superintendent authorised in this behalf by the local Government may, on the application of any employer, grant licenses to persons to be local agents for the purpose of representing such employer within such area as such employer may desire, provided that no contractor shall be licensed as a local agent." It will be seen that the contractor is excepted. In the same way your memorialists think the garden sirdar ought to be excluded, particularly regard being had to the provision of Section 63, which gives power to the local agent to prosecute garden sirdars.

Section 66.—The contract should be explained to the labourer before registration as provided in Section 42.

Section 67.—The medical examination of the labourer should be made compulsory, it should not be left to the discretion of the Magistrate.

Section 69.—As remarked in reference to Section 41, the labourer should be allowed the freedom of refusing to execute a contract when it is explained to him.

Section 78 provides among other things that if a garden sirdar or his delegate *abandons a labourer or his dependants*, the Magistrate "may either order the sirdar or the person so appointed to pay to such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation, or may cancel the labour contract entered into by such labourer and order such sardar or person to pay to such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him with his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered." This provision your memorialists submit is not sufficient. The garden sardar or his delegate who may wilfully abandon a labourer or his dependents should be criminally punished for wilful neglect of his charge.

Section 81.—In cases contemplated by this Section the labourer and his dependents should be allowed their passage back home, and not simply to the place where they had been registered.

Section 83. Compensation ought to be given to the labourer when the contract is cancelled at the instance of the employer.

Section 99. It is not made obligatory on the Magistrate to inspect a vessel conveying labourers. It is meet that he should invariably inspect whenever a vessel may pass his station.

Section 110 and 111. Under these sections the labour contracts need not be registered in the presence of a responsible officer, but may be forwarded by the employer to the inspector for registration. In all laws for the registration of deeds or contracts the usual safeguard is provided for the proper identification of the executant and for the ascertainment of the execution of the same by him. But this wholesome precaution is dispensed with in the case of labourers coming under these sections, though they are the most ignorant and helpless. If it be inconvenient to employer to bring the labourers to the office of the Inspector for registration of contract, surely the Inspector may be required to proceed to the estate on payment of his travelling fee for the registration of contracts within a given time, when there will be a sufficient number of contracts for registration.

Section 114. The schedule of tasks of work your memorialists submit should be entered in the contract for the information of the labourer.

Section 116 provides that if the Inspector consider that any schedule of daily tasks, or any part thereof, is unreasonable, he may by order in writing direct that a reduction specified in such order be made of such tasks. The employer shall at once make such reduction, but may, if dissatisfied with the Inspector's order, by notice in writing require the Inspector to refer the schedule to a Committee for consideration. Such Committee shall consist of the Inspector, of some employer to be nominated by him, and of some person to be nominated by the employer, whose schedule is to be considered, or if the employer fails within a reasonable time to nominate some person, by the Inspector. Such a Committee cannot but be one-sided. It would be much more preferable if the Committee were composed of the Inspector, a medical officer, and one employer.

Section 133. According to this section, if a labourer desire to complain, he must lodge his complaint with his employer against whom or whose servants his charge lies. Your memorialists are aware that courts are not easily accessible in the tea districts of Assam, but justice requires that the labourer should at any rate be allowed the privilege of forwarding a petition of complaint to the nearest Magistrate or Inspector of Police on unstamped paper, either by post or through the police, if he should find it inconvenient to prefer his charge through the unnatural channel of the accused. Indeed, if there could be a most efficacious mode of suppressing the institution of complaints by labourers, it would be the provision under notice.

Section 171 authorizes the arrest of a deserted labourer without warrant either by the employer himself or by any person acting on his behalf not found within five miles of the residence of a Magistrate. It is not stated whether the person so acting shall be armed with a duly executed authority in respect to every individual deserter to that effect or not. This provision, your memorialists respectfully submit, has a dangerous tendency. It is a wholesome principle of law that no man's liberty should be at the mercy of another, but under colour of this provision the peon of a planter in Cachar, Assam, or Sylhet may seize any person in any part of the country charging him with desertion from the plantation of his master. Your memorialists venture to remark that this provision does not differ widely from the fugitive slave law of America. The peon may commit the seizure without any knowledge of the planter, either with a view to wreak his vengeance upon some enemy or to exact money, and after effecting his sinister purpose and making him over to the police he may abscond and thus elude the hands of justice, but even when the peon commits the seizure under instructions of his master, it will be difficult for him to prove it in case the latter disacknowledges the act of his agent, and the only punishment which has been prescribed for wrongful seizure is fine not exceeding Rs. 50, although the ordinary law of the country visits such offences with severer punishment including imprisonment with labour.

Section 190 provides that whenever an estate on which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour is transferred by act of parties or operation of law, or devolves on the person to whom it is so transferred or on whom it devolves shall be bound by the labour-contract of such labourer in the same manner and to the same extent as the person by or from whom it is transferred or devolves would have been bound by such contract, and shall have the same rights and remedies under such contract as such persons would have had thereunder, if the estate had not been transferred or had not devolved. This means that the labourers are to be transferred like goods and chattels to the incoming owner. Surely they ought to be allowed to exercise the common right of free agent, that is to say freedom of choice.

Your memorialists solicit that Your Excellency in Council will be pleased to take into consideration the above remarks and suggestions and to make such alterations in the Bill as to Your Excellency in Council may seem meet.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

18 *British Indian Street*,
British Indian Association Rooms,
The 14th December 1881.

(Sd.) KRISTODAS PAL,
Secy. B. I. A.

THE COTTON DUTIES AND THE INCOME TAX.

IT is really very gratifying to observe that the *Times* does not side with Manchester for the total repeal of the cotton duties. We must do the leading journal the justice to say that it has always been sound on this question. As regards the theory it is at one with Manchester, though we must deny that the present cotton duties are at all protective in their character, but practically it is at one with us. Thus the *Times* says, "the duties no doubt materially raise the price of cotton goods in India, and diminish the demand for them." This is not correct. The remission of the duties has no more cheapened the duty-free goods than its retention enhances the cost of duty-payable goods. The fact is the

incidence of the tax is very—very low. It makes scarcely any difference in price, though the repeal of the duty will certainly fill the pockets of Manchester men. Besides, the duty is now levied on that class of goods which the richer classes consume, and we see no reason why the rich should be relieved of their legitimate burden, however small. The *Times* then justly remarks: "The remissions which have actually taken place have introduced confusion without obliterating all grievance. The distinction between duty-free and taxable cotton goods is embarrassing to the manufacturer or the shipper. A slight mistake, not due to any fault on his part, may lead to the confiscation of a whole consignment; and the present fiscal arrangement, which puts a premium on some kinds of goods, has the effect of forcing trade into unnatural channels." But this is the result of the unrighteous policy of Government for which the people of India are not responsible.

The *Times*, however, takes a truly imperial and dispassionate view of the whole question in the following:

"It is a great pity that both here and in India the question should have got mixed in many minds with the alien question of free trade and protection. The greatest purist in regard to the former may tolerate customs duties, if they are honestly imposed with a view to raise revenue, and not to bolster up decaying or exotic industries. No one, except a few insignificant crotchet-mongers, thinks that we are false to the principles of free trade, because we annually raise many millions by Customs. In India cotton duties have been retained for revenue purposes; and if they have had the incidental effect of benefiting the owners of Indian mills, it is loose rhetoric to speak of them as if they were protective taxes. The real question is dealt with only when the precarious and peculair character of the Indian revenue is faced. It is liable, in the best years, to embarrassing fluctuations. Even if the agitation in favour of abolishing the opium duty be not successful, that source of income cannot be depended upon; it varies much; it is quite a common incident that an Indian Finance Minister is out one or two millions in his calculations as to the yield of it. Deputations usually make light of the sum raised by the cotton duties. They are not large, judged by English standards. But all things fiscal are comparative; and it was incumbent upon the deputation of Friday to indicate the quarter in which a substitute could be looked for. When a Government is forced to raise millions by means of a salt tax; when the land tax presses hardly upon the tillers of the soil; when direct taxes in any form excite discontent or are unproductive, one cannot be too nice as to the mode of finding ways and means. Some day or other Indian financiers may be able to dispense with those duties. The growth in the revenue and the reductions in the expenditure may untie the hands of the Government and enable it to do all which Lancashire cotton-spinners desire. The first time that the Indian Government has at its disposal a clear surplus of three-quarters of a million, or, indeed, any substantial sum, it can be devoted to few better objects than to removing taxes which no one would think of imposing except as an unpleasant necessity. Meantime Lancashire must be patient. The facts of the situation cannot be ignored, and they, unfortunately, do not warrant the surrender of a certain source of revenue in the blind hope that some thing, nobody knows what will be found to replace it."

But probably the *Times* has not heard that it is proposed to re-impose the odious income tax in order to recoup the loss of revenue, which will follow the surrender of the cotton duties. Could any thing be more iniquitous than this? If the history of Indian taxation proves any one thing more conclusively than another, it is the utter unsuitability of a direct tax to the circumstances of the people of this country. It has been tried over and over again, and over and over again has it broken down. There is something in the soil as it were which prevents the healthy growth of a direct tax in India. It is not the amount of the direct tax of which the people complain, but its incidental evils, inquisitorial enquiry, harassment, arbitrary and unjust assessment, vexatious proceedings, *douceur* to the myrmidons of the tax, and the demoralizing effects of the system. The reports collected by Lord Northbrook's Government on the subject contained teeming evidence of the evils we have referred to. Will Lord Ripon reject this mass of evidence? Will Major Baring contradict himself and go against his own previous conviction on the subject? We believe not; we do earnestly hope that Lord Ripon's Government will make a bold, firm, and manly stand, and remove the reproach now-a-days cast upon the Government of India that under the present system it is nothing more than a mere echo of the voice of the Great Mogul at Westminster Hotel.

Since the above was in type we have noticed the following telegram from Bombay:

Bombay December 14.—A *Times of India's* special telegram of yesterday's date from London says, that public opinion in England strongly condemns the proposed revival of the income-tax in India. The London *Times*, in an article on the subject, points out that the people of India detest the income-tax, on the ground of its unequal incidence and inquisitorial nature. Previous returns have also proved that the amount collected will be very disappointing, and the *Times* cautions the Government of India to pause before committing a serious political blunder which would only incite the people to discontent in the event of any possible foreign invasion.

We are glad to observe that the London press has taken the subject in right earnest. We believe that unless the Government contradict the rumour a strong demonstration is contemplated by the representative Associations of the metropolis. We are glad to learn that the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association, and the British Indian Association are at one on the subject.

LONDON DEGREES FOR INDIAN STUDENTS.

AN application made by a Bengali student to the Registrar of the London University for permission to be examined in India for the degree of B. A. of that University, has given rise to an important question. The applicant had passed the examination for the Gilchrist Scholarship, and had therefore, in accordance with recent regulations, become a matriculated member of the London University. The Registrar, in replying to the application desired him to apply to the Local Government in order that an official application might be made. Accordingly, the candidate in question submitted his application to the provincial Director of Public Instruction, with the request that it might be forwarded for consideration of the London University. The Director, in sending up the case to the Local Government for consideration, pointed out that, as the London University did not require candidates for the B. A. degree to go through a regular course of academic training, the holding of the degree examinations of that University in India would give all students, who had passed the examination for the Gilchrist scholarship, the option of competing for the degrees of the London University, independently of college instruction. The Director very properly suggested that the Senate of the Calcutta University should be given an opportunity of expressing their opinion upon the proposal to include Bengal within the area covered by the London University. The Lieutenant-Governor in sending the application to the Registrar of the Calcutta University for the opinion of the Senate remarked that "the proposal is one which is likely injuriously to affect the University of Calcutta." His Honor added:—"He sees no object whatever in placing facilities in the way of students desiring to take a degree of the London University without leaving this country, and he is not disposed to move in the matter as at present advised." The Senate, however, took a broad view of the case. When the subject came up for discussion in the Senate, it was resolved "that the Senate agree with the opinion expressed by the Syndicate, that the interests of the Calcutta University will not suffer by admitting students to compete for the degrees of the London University and holding the London University examinations in Calcutta." At the same time the Senate thought that "the Government should before submitting any application from candidates for the degrees of the London or any other foreign University, satisfy themselves that such candidates are persons who have gone through a regular course of study in some college affiliated to the Calcutta University or are teachers who would be allowed to appear in the examinations of the Calcutta University." The Government of Bengal in referring the case to the Supreme Government for orders expressed its opinion that in order to prevent a practice of desultory study from growing up, the restriction adopted by the Senate of the Calcutta University should be enforced. The Government of India concurred in the view of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and laid the case before the Secretary of State for decision.

After the matter had been considered by the Senate of the London University, the Registrar informed the Secretary of State for India that the rule laid down by the Senate in regard to the establishment of examination of the University elsewhere than in the United Kingdom is, that no application for the appointment of an examination in a British Colony or Dependency will be entertained unless made by the Government of the place where it is desired that the examination should be held and unless such application be forwarded through the Colonial or India Office in London. The Registrar went on to say:—"This rule was established by the Senate in order to obtain a sufficient guarantee for the due conduct of the examinations, if held, and as a security against the use of examinations of the University for purposes inconsistent with the duly considered interests of any Colonies, places where they might be introduced. So long as this rule prevails, no examination other than the Matriculation examination as already established could be held in India, except upon the application of the Government of India; and as the Senate would decline to entertain applications made by persons desirous to become candidates (invariably referring such applicants to the Government of the place where they are residing) it rests with the Government of India to decide whether it would or would not be desirable to make further use of the examinations of the University." The decision of the matter has thus been left in the hands of the Government of India. If that Government should forward applications from students who had, by passing the Gilchrist Scholarship examination, become Matricalated Members of the London University; to be examined in India for the degree of B. A., the Senate will have no objection to hold the degree examinations in India, even for the sake of a single candidate. For our part, we do not see any sufficient reason why the Government of India should not forward applications from students, who desire to be examined in this country. The objections which the Supreme Government urges against the inclusion of India within the area covered by the London University are these two:—(1) that it is likely so injuriously to affect the University of Calcutta; and (2) that it will lead to the growth of a practice of desultory study, inasmuch as the London University does not require candidates for a degree to go through a regular course of study in some College affiliated to itself. Both these objections can, however, be satisfactorily answered. When the Senate of the Calcutta University declare in plain terms, that the interests of the Calcutta University will not suffer by admitting students to compete for the degrees of the London University and holding the London University examinations in Calcutta, that declaration may be accepted as conclusive. The bulk of the Indian students continue to study for the Indian degrees, even if London degrees could be had by passing the requisite examination in this country. As regards the second objecton, the growth of a practice of desultory study can be prevented by the enforcement of the restriction proposed by the Senate. The Senate, as we have seen above, have recorded their opinion that, the Government should before submitting any applications from candidates for the degrees of the London or any other Foreign University, satisfy themselves that such cadidates are persons who have gone through a regular course of study in some College affiliated to the Calcutta University or are teachers who would be allowed to appear in the examinations of the Calcutta University. The strict enforcement of this restriction will effectually prevent a practice of desultory study from growing up and remove the objections urged by the Government of

Bengal against the establishment of the degree examinations of the London University in India.

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT.

A POWERFUL agitation has been set on foot in England for the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act. A Conference of Repeal Associations was held in London on the 25th October last, Mr. Stansfeld M. P. presiding. The following Associations were representated at the meeting: The National Association, The City of London Committee, The Friends' Association, The Weslyans Association The Congregational Committee, The Ladies National Association, The National Medical Association, The Northern Counties' League, The Midland Countries' Electoral Union, The Birmingham Ladies' Committee, The Working Men's National League, The British and Continental Federation, The North-Eastern Association, The Scottish National Association, The Gentlemen's and Working Men's Committee (Chatham), The Gentlemen's Committee (Bristol,) The Ladies' Committee (Bristol), The Ladies' Committee (Clifton), The Working Men's Committee (Greenwich,) The Ladies' Committee (Woolwich,) The Ladies' Committee(York), The Ladies' Committee (Belfast), The Canterbury Committee, The Oxford Committee, The Colchester Committee, The Ladies' Committee (Reading), The Women's Committee, (Nottingham,) The Ladies'Committee (Alloa), The Gentlemen's Committee (Maidstone), The Moral Reform Union. In an able and exhaustive speech Mr Stansfeld reviewed the history of the question. He referred to the Parliamentary Committee on the Act appointed at his instance. That Committee was appointed on the 11th June, 1879. It sat for one month in that session; was re-appointed in February 1880, and then sat twice, just to hear Dr. Nevins' evidence, before Parliament was dissolved. It was re-appointed in the first session of the new Parliament, but, after repeated delays, it adjourned without having once met for business. It was re-appointed in January, 1881, but did not meet until February 23rd. Previously it had met sometimes twice a week, and often only once a week; but owing to pressure put upon the Committee by Mr. Stansfeld during the last session, it sat generally twice a week. It adjourned on July 28th, although Parliament sat for nearly two months longer. Now, how far has the question been advanced by the labours of the Committee? As to the hygienic success of the Act, Mr. Stansfeld said: "You are aware that in the army medical statistics they divide the diseases which are the consequence of sexual vice into two classes. One of these classes is confessedly local and non-constitutional; about the other there is some question. With regard to the confessedly local and non-constitutional class it has been admitted that the Acts have had no success whatever. With regard to the second class of disease most of which is also non-constitutional and merely local, I say that the cross-examinations of the medical witnesses who were called in support of the Acts prove our figures, showing a limited reduction, and not their sensational figures. Ex-Surgeon-Major Lawson set to work and produced a return, station by station. But what did this return show? First of all it showed that in the subjected districts or let us call them *protected* districts, the proportion of constitutional to non-constitutional cases increased year by year under the influence of the Acts. That is to say, it showed conclusively that the main effects of the Acts—wherever there had been a reduction—had been in the non-constitutional cases. And further, their figures showed, taking station by station, that there was no change whatever in the, relation between the two classes of stations—on the one hand before the Acts and on the other hand after the Act—with respect to the average constantly sick from these secondary causes." Referring to the evidence of Surgeon-Major Lawson, Mr. Stansfeld remarked: "He told us that at a certain date he visited Aldershot to make certain inquiries into the existence of disease in the regiments there. He found that the number of admissions to hospital in these regiments under identical conditions in all respects, and subjected to the same protection as far as the operations of the Acts were concerned, varied from 23 per 1,000 to 146 per 1,000. Parliament ought to see, and Parliament will see that the Acts cannot be credited with the reduction to 23 admissions per 1,000 when in regiments similarly circumstanced the number is 146 per 1,000." Now, how are the poor women affected? Mr. Stansfeld thus dwelt on this point:

To many of us, very much to myself, a new and marvellous light was thrown upon this hygienic question by our own witnesses, in examination and cross-examination, and I think we are indebted for it to Professor Lee, admittedly about the first expert in England on this subject. It was this—that every poor girl who falls into a life of prostitution almost invariably becomes affected with constitutional disease in the first year. But, mark, that disease, like small-pox, act as protection against re-infection. Her capablity of *imparting* infection may remain, but it is, comparatively speaking, very rare that she is reinfected with a constitutional attack. You will say to me, "Well, if that is the case, are you not minimising the danger of constitutional infection from the practice of vice?" By no means. She may remain infectious although it is difficult for anyone, even for the examining surgeon, to know it; because it is not a question of mere outward contact—it is something elso—but further than that she may and does become a medium, a channel, conveying the constitutional infection from man to man. I have often spoken in public on this subject of mediate contagion, and I now tell you the result of this inquiry is more and more to prove to my mind that the bulk of contagion is mediate contagion; that is to say, the bulk of contagion so far as these poor wretched women, who are examined, manipulated and educated for the public service are concerned. Dr. Barr told us he had been for thirteen years examining women at Aldershot, and during that time he had conducted 54,848 examinations—("shame!"); that, in 46,867 cases there was no disease; that there was disease in 7,667 cases, and that out of those 7,667 cases of disease, 4,941—more than five-eighths—were of that class of which I have already told you that it is admitted universally on both hands that the Acts have had no effect whatsoever. (Hear, hear.)

We have not space for more extracts, but we will give one more:

There are plenty of other matters as to which Parliament ought to be compelled to look into this question. (Hear, hear.) There is the question of the Belgian traffic. I suppose that those who have taken the most active interest in that subject will have arranged with some member of Parliament to take it in hand. Then again, there is the subject of the Hong Kong traffic. That matter I propose to take in hand myself. (Applause.) Then there is the other question of the infamy of our Indian regulations, and lastly there are the Estimates. I say therefore that it is easy to raise our question on these side issues, and it will be our duty to be troublesome to Parliament and the Government upon them all. I could name some members of Parliament now who, when our question comes up, will prove themselves friends, valiant and true; who will remain by my side in these somewhat more aggressive tactics.

We are glad to observe that Mr. Stansfeld is so firm, and the Repeal Associations so determined. India should join this movement. We make no doubt that if copies of petitions, which Mr. Stansfeld may send up to Parliament, be sent out to this country, many would be glad to subscribe to them. Whatever decision Parliament may come to on the subject in England it is sure to influence the action of the Government here.

AGRICULTURAL BANKS FOR INDIA.

THE reader remmembers that Mr. W. Wedderburn of the Bombay Civil Service, has suggested the establishment of agricultural banks as the best means of relieving the Deccan ryot. Mr. Wedderburn thinks that capital could be easily obtained at 4 per cent. under Government guarantee for the use of which the Deccan ryot would gladly pay 12 per cent. The *Bombay Gazette* has recently announced that certain native gentlemen of Bombay have determined to carry Mr. Wedderburn's suggestions into effect. Our contemporary says,—"it is proposed to make the venture a matter of private enterprise entirely Government being asked only to afford facilities for making recoveries from defaulters. The Ahmednugar *taluq*, we believe, has been chosen as the most suitable, and a scheme is being prepared by Mr. Vishvanath Narayen Mandlick which His Excellency the Governor has promised to take into consideration when his present tour is concluded." The preparation of a scheme for giving effect to Mr. Wedderburn's suggestion could not have been entrusted to better hands than those of Mr. Mandlik. We will discuss his scheme when it is laid before the public. Meanwhile, we would advert to some general considerations bearing on this subject.

In this connection it would not be uninteresting to take a glance at the various measures which have been adopted in some of the countries of Europe for supplying cheap capital for farming stock and agricultural improvements. In this matter the Prussians have surpassed all the other European nations. The prosperity of the Prussian peasantry is, in no small degree, owing to the facilities they enjoy of obtaining capital on favourable terms. At first the State itself undertook great improvements, and also allowed large sums for irrigation and other agricultural purposes. Gradually the State became con-vinced that its true function is to help those that help themselves, and adopted a system of guarantee. This, too, was afterwards abandoned, and now the field is occupied by private enterprise, the State usually providing the cost of all preliminary surveys and plans. In the reign of Frederic the Great the Mortgage Debenture Association of Silesia was founded, and the favourable results of the institution which soon became known led to the establishment of other Associations of a similar character. Originally these institutions were intended for the benefit of large landowners; but they soon extended their operations to peasant proprietors. The Associations advanced money up to half of the taxed value of the property, accepting properties yielding net annual income of £7-10 or, say, Rs. 75. In the twenty years previous to 1869 works were undertaken embracing nearly two millions of acres. The cost of these works was nearly 2½ millions sterling, and of this amount one-sixth was granted by the State, the remaining five-sixths being found by private enterprise. Besides these institutions to promote agricultural improvements, there are in Prussia co-operative associations, the object of which is to enable the small proprietor to provide himself on easy terms with cattle, implements and manure, and to assist the labourer in purchasing his house and plot of land. By the help of these associations the small proprietor can surmount the disadvantages of small properties and can farm as well as the large farmer. During the twenty years that these associations have been in operation no losses at all have occurred from bad debts in the majority of the unions. The credit institutions of Prussia are the best and most satisfactorily managed of its kind in Europe, but similar associations are at work in every country on that continent. In France the banks and societies connected with the "Credit Agricole" are doing immense good to the small proprietors. In Belgium there are institutions which lend money on favourable terms on mortgage, and collect their advances by annual instalments. Lord Derby, in his remarkable article on the Irish Land Bill in the *Nineteenth Century*, which we noticed in a recent issue, speaks in the highest terms of the industry and frugality of the Belgium peasantry. Like the Indian cultivators, they are extremely attached to the soil on which they are born and brought up. In Austria there are institutions, independent of the State, which advance loans at 6 per cent interest repayable by instalments. In the smaller German States there are loan associations, credit unions, &c., all of which are very useful in promoting credit and the general prosperity of the labouring classes. These institutions generally make advances up to half of the value of the property and charge interest at rates varying from 4½ to 6 per cent. They consider carefully the question of the security offered, but do not enquire closely into the objects of the loan. In Sweden there are mortgage associations in each province, to lend money on landed property on the most advantageous terms possible, and the advances made are recovered by instalments. In Denmark there are societies and savings banks which give loans on mortgage.

Even in less advanced countries like Russia, Portugal and Greece there are institutions established for the express purpose of making advances to the peasantry on easy terms.

We are strongly in favour of Major Evelyn Baring's truly statesman-like policy of encouraging private enterprise in this country. But we are inclined to think that in the matter of opening agricultural banks the time has not yet come for entrusting the business to private energy and capital. In Prussia, as we have seen above, the work was first undertaken by the State itself, and when the Government ceased to make advances from the public treasury, it gave a guarantee to private capitalists, as the Government of India did in the first stage of railway enterprise in this country. Even now the Russian Government bears the cost of all preliminary surveys and plans. In India the State has invariably been the pioneer in every new enetrprise. Take, for instance, the tea industry. It was the Government, which by incurring an enormous expenditure, first showed that the cultivation of the tea plant could be profitably carried on in this country. When the plantations established at the cost of the State became successful, private capitalists entered the field and embarked in the business.

There can be no manner of doubt that if the State had not led the way, the tea industry could never have been established in this country. The same thing may be said in regard to the tobacco and cinchona industries, which have not yet passed out of the hands of Government. We have no hesitation in saying that unless the State first opens agricultural banks in this country or gives some sort of guarantees to the private capitalists, who are willing to embank their money in this business, a fair trial cannot possibly be given to the experiment. Let the Government first show that the business can be carried on with profit, and then the path will be clear for private enterprise. The *Bombay Gazette* states that the native gentlemen who have come forward to give effect to Mr. Wedderburn's suggestions will ask Government to afford facilities for making recoveries from defaulters. We do not know what facilities will be asked for by the projectors. But we would observe that the business of making small advances to cultivators on easy terms could not be profitably carried on, unless the creditors were given the privilege of making recoveries from defaulters by a summary procedure like what is prescribed in Act VII of 1867 (B.C.) Now, this is a privilege which cannot be conferred on a private individual or corporation, without opening the way for the practice of a great deal of oppression and fraud. The Government, as Mr. Wedderburn has pointed out, can easily raise money at 4 per cent., for the use of which the Deccan cultivator would gladly pay 12 per cent. Moreover, the State will be able to recover its dues from defaulters by summary procedure. As the Government makes what are called *tuccavi* advances and gives loans under the Land Improvement Act, all that is required is to extend these operations. The important experiment may be tried in the Deccan with the greater advantage, and we think the Government is bound to do something for the Kunbi who has been ruined by its rigid revenue system. The Deccan Agriculturists' Act provides remedies, which, while scarcely touching the surface of existing evils, have laid the foundation of new troubles for the future. Next to a modification of the revenue system, the best thing the Government can do to relieve the Deccan ryot is to enable him, by opening agricultural banks, to borrow money on easy terms.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE glad to state that in response to our appeal Raja Kristendranath Roy of Bolihar, and Raja Shamanand Dey of Balasore, have each subscribed Rs. 200 in aid of the Northbrook Indian Society and Club.

THEIR EXCELLENCIES Lord and Lady Ripon, accompanied by Major the Hon'ble E. Baring, Mr. Grant, and the Vice-regal staff embarked for Rangoon on Friday last. Grand preparations are being made in Rangoon for the reception of His Excellency the Viceroy. His Excellency will return to the capital in the beginning of January next.

WE ARE glad to learn that the Secretary of State having sanctioned the appointment of two extra Judges to the High Court for six months to work off arrears, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council has appointed Mr. J. O'Kinealy and Babu Mahendranath Bose to the extra judgships. Both are excellent men. There are few men in the Bengal Civil Service so well acquainted with law as Mr. O'Kinealy. We are glad that the Government has at last done justice to Babu Mahendranath Bose, who deservedly enjoys a high reputation for intelligence, ability and independence of character.

WE OBSERVE that Raja Shivapersad C. S. I. of Benares has been appointed an additional member of the Governor General's Legislative Council. We believe he takes the place of Mr. Sashia Sastri C. S. I. He distinguished himself in the education department of the North Western Provinces. He knows English well, and is thoroughly acquainted with the condition of the people in Northern India.

WE THANK Mr. Ball for a copy of his "Manual of the Geology of India, Part III. Economic Geology." It is a work, which shews great industry and research. Mr. H. B. Meddlicott, Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India, has written a preface to the book, in which he says: "The information available regarding metalliferous deposits in India (iron excepted) is defective in respect of their probable value, although the dry facts of the occurrence of ores in many places are abundant enough. A complete collection of those isolated observations involved long and patient search through many papers were published and unpublished. This task has now been very thoroughly accomplished by Mr. Ball; in his 3rd Part of the Manual of the Geology of India he has colligated all the scattered information in groups of subjects and of districts, indicating the relation to what is known of the geology of the country. The student as well as the man of enterprise will long owe him gratitude for the great store of facts thus brought within easy reference." This is high certificate. Mr. Ball has rendered a signal service to the cause of geological researches in India by this publication.

THE FISHER DEFAMATION CASE, which was being tried by the Allahabad High Court, has come to a close. We take from the *Statesman* the following telegram on the subject:

Judgment was given to-day in the Fisher case. When the Judge took his seat he asked to meet all the Counsel engaged in this case in chambers; after half-an-hour's consultation they returned Both counsel for the accused intimated to the Judge that there was no occasion for a fresh trial, as their clients wished to plead guilty. In passing sentence his lordship said that he was extremely sorry to see a man of Gunga Ram's position in the dock. Taking into considerrtion his want of education, and excessive credulity and the attempt though tardy to make Mr. Fisher amends for the charactor which he had tried to punish. His lordship still could not inflict a less punishment than a fine of five hundred rupees, or, in default of payment, six weeks' simple imprisonment. The fine was paid immediately. Addressing Fanthome, the judge said that he (Fanthome) had received a liberal education, wherefore his offence was more serious than Gunga Ram's, and that Fanthome should have made enquiries and have been certain before promulgating those most gross charges against Mr Fisher His Lordship sentenced Fanthome to two month's simple imprisoment, with one thousand rupees' fine, or in default to nudergo two more month's simple imprisonment. His lordship hoped that this sentence would be a warning to both the accused, and all India, to be very carefull in making charges where the characte of officials or of anybody else, was concerned, The Court was densely crowded, and great interest has been manifested throughout the trial.

We congratulate Mr. Fisher on his triumph.

A LITTLE incident occurred lately which is worthy of a passing note. A few weeks ago Mr. F. S Growse C. I. E, the well known scholar, and able historian of Muthura, returned to this country after a short leave of absence in England. He was met at Jeypur by a deputation of Raises, by another at Delhi, and by a third at a later point of the return journey, all of whom accompanied him to Bulandshahar, the district of which he is the Magistrate. The deputations included both Hindus and Mahommedans, showing how well he had earned the good will of both the leading sections of the community. This exceptional demonstration of respect for an officer of no higher position than a Magistrate is particularly interesting, and bespeaks volumes in favour of him. We should like to know how many civilians are there in the Bengal Provinces who would be so treated. We have enough of Kirkwoods and D'Oyleys and Moseleys and Sharps,—enough and to spare,—but of Growses—but "comparisons are odorous," says Mrs. Malaprop.

WE HAVE received the following letter from a correspondent:

In one of your previous issues you wrote, on information received from a correspondent that the owner of the site of the new latrine at Konnugur has brought a suit against the Commissioners for possession of the site, and you said that the public will watch with jealousy the action of the Municipal Commissioners regarding the suit. The Municipal Commissioners on the 26th ultimo came to the following Resolution:—"That the suit be defended by the Municipality and Babu Gopalchunder Deb, the entire expenses being borne by the latter." This is after the V. C. had *officially* reported that there was an encroachment on the plaintiff's land and after two of the Commissioners had expressed a similar opinion. I may also mention that relying on these reports the Chairman in June last issued a notice upon Babu Gopal Chunder Deb to give up the site of the old latrine as the Municipal Commissioners were induced to make it over to him on his own statement. Now the Municipal Commissioners, without enforcing the notice to quit, stultify themselves by trying to defend the suit in the interest of the person who had evidently misled them. The morality of the Resolution is extremely questionable. The Municipal Commissioners take a grant of a disputed title and lend the weight of their name to a private individual who will try to defend a wrongful title under the protection of their wings. If such conduct is indefensible in a *private* citizen, is it defensible on the part of a *public body* associated by law for certain lawful purposes?

The action of the Serampore Municipality has really taken us by surprise. But the judicial trial may do the work of a commission.

WE HAVE RECEIVED from Messrs Thomas Cook and Son of Ludgate Circus, London, E. C. a copy of their pamphlet on programme of Indian tours, and their new system of International Travelling Tickets embracing every place of interest between India and Egypt, Palestine, Central Europe, Great Britain, America, Japan, China Australia, New Zealand and all parts of the globe. These tickets afford facilities to travellers to travel round the world as between any two specified points. The cost of these tickets varies according to the distances to be travelled and the places to be touched at *en route*. We would commend the pamphlet to all intending tourists in India, which may be had for one shilling only

HIS HIGHNESS the Newab Nazim of Moorshedabad has returned to his seat. A correspondent thus chronicles this event:

The Newab Nazim of Bengal has returned to Moorshedabad. It is somewhat under forced circumstances. Sorely disappointed in his efforts with the Secretary of State and the House of Commons to obtain a recognition of the claims of his House to the position it is entitled to under Treaties, he has been seized with a feeling of great despondency, and so rather than return to India, he had determined to go and spend his life at Karballa in Arabia, and with a view to journey thereto, had come to Bombay, whence he intended to start for the place of his destination. He having previously by an agreement with the Secretary of State formally abdicated his title of Newab Nazim and the position he occupied generally in Bengal in consideration, it is said, of a sum of 60 lacs, and an allowance of one lac a

year, his eldest son receives a stipend of a lac and fifty thousand, and Rs. 30,000 annually for the repairs of the palace building. The Newab Nazim was staying at Bombay waiting for his old mother and one of his Begums and a son to accompany him to Karballa. His mother left Moorshedabad and went to Bombay. The son came as far as Allahabad to meet his mother. They met together there, where the mother by entreaties and persuasion, has prevailed on the son to return to Moorshedabad, and he has yielded to motherly affection. His return to Moorshedabad was intended to be strictly private. Nevertheless he was waited upon at Azimgunge Station not only by the numerous members of his family but also by natives from the highest to the lowest, the roads were planted with plantain trees and decorated with garlands of flowers spontaneously by the people. In the city itself the gathering of the people was immense. But alas! the glory of Moorshedabad is gone!

WE THANK Messrs. Newman & Co., for a copy of Mr. Bull's "Aids in Arithmetical calculations" including short methods of extracting Square and Cube Roots of large numbers. It is a small brochure, comprising very useful and practical methods of abbreviating tedious arithmetical calculations. The rules we may observe are not compilations, but all with the exception of one original.

THE WONDERFUL performances of Messrs. Chiarini and Co.'s Circus were one of the chief attractions of this town this season last year. We are glad to learn that they are about to pay a visit to Calcutta this season, and are expected to be here in course of this week. We wish them the same success that attended their labours last year.

THIS is the season of school exhibitions in Calcutta. We have already noticed the address of the Viceroy at St. Xavier's College. The Hon'ble Rivers Thompson presided at the Doveton College and gave good advice to the students and the managers of the institution. Col. Welsh presided at the High School of Calcutta and Rev. Mr. Milne delivered an address. He thus exhorted the Eurasian community:

The time has now come when you must make a united stand. How is it that you have been unable to make such a stand? Because a century of bondage has crushed your spirits. You do not see it; neither did the Israelites of old. You must now fight your own battles and you must do it once if you are men. In God's name, go forward and you shall have your grievances redressed. How do I know? A little thought during my illness made me see this as clearly as a sunbeam. You are called upon to stand up for your just rights, and you must do it. Otherwise you must be content with another half-century of servitude. These are the prospects before you: the time of your redemption draweth nigh.

There is no man so competent to be your leader, as Archdeacon Bailey, Call a meeting. Action must be taken at once. Begin this very night. Get up a petition to Lord Ripon, and get a thousand signatures, and he will attend to it. Call a meeting and Archdeacon Baley will help you. First of all, you want the Doveton College grant to be continued. The fiat has gone forth, and the order to close the doors, for the college will recieve no more grants. Why? Have they failed? No. Then get up a respectful memorial and present it to Lord Ripon. Sir Ashley Eden, no doubt has been misinformed, and the Commissioner for Public Instruction has been misdirected. The fiat has gone forth —Close your college, for we will give you no more grants. Well, we will do without it for a time, at any rate. There yet remains the British privilege of agitating. The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, the editor of the *Hindoo Patriot*, is looked upon as a power, as the head of the Bengallee party, and he can obtain almost anything he wants for his own party. The next thing is to get up a paper of our own. You must have a thousand subscribers, at one rupee a month. There are plenty of men of talent on the spot to conduct it. There are 100 boys of Protestant parents going to St. Xaviers College. Protestant parents, are you not ashamed of yourselves to allow this to continue? Are you doing your duty in allowing your boys to go there? Take them away, and support the Doveton College. You have never shown any interest in that institution, and if they have succeeded, it is by their own efforts. Shame on you for not assisting them."

Was the Missionary gentleman rolling in fine frenzy? The Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs presided at the Calcutta Boys and Girls school, and gave some valuable advice to both boys and girls. Sir Ashley Eden presided at the Calcutta Madrassa, and in course of his address thus noticed Syud Ameer Hossein's scheme of Mahomedan education:

A Mahomedan gentleman in whose ability and sagacity his Honor had great faith, and made certain suggestions with regard to Mahomedan education. This scheme would cost between fifty and sixty thousand rupees a year. It was to be obtained by reducing the number of Madrissas, and increasing the efficiency of the others. If, his Honor continued, he had been able to convince himself that this scheme was calculated to improve Mahomedan education, he would not have the slightest hesitation, in adopting it, although it would cost a lot of money to carry it out. It seemed to him that the establishment of a small collge for Mahomedan education in Calcutta was a doubtful advantage, As a matter of fact he was afraid that the result would not have been satisfactory to the children of the parents. Then, as regards the second question of supplying funds for that institution, he thought his friend Syud was somewhat mistaken as regards the mofussil. The increase in the number of students in the Madrissa had been at the rate of 30 per cent. The increase in its Arabic department was tenfold more than in the English. It was not only the number of students that was increasing, but also the efficiency. The efficiency of the mofussil Madrissas had also very largely improved. The students of many of the mofussil Madrissas he found were able to hold their own with the students of almost any other. It had therefore been decided to do certain things. It had been decided to allow Mahomedan students to attend the college in Calcutta at one-third of the usual fees, the remaining tow-thirds to be paid out of Government funds.

We congratulate the Mahomedan students on the concession thus made. Although it is a favour shewn to a class, still we think it is a matter of the highest importance that our Mahomedan fellow-countrymen should be encouraged to avail themselves of the advantages of liberal education. His Excellency the Viceroy presided at the distribution of prizes to the pupils of La Martinere. In his address on this occasion His Excellency partially unfolded his educational policy. His Excellency said:

When I say that I am no eager advocate for the extension of Government interference in education, I say that upon one condition and with one proviso and that is, that the work of education in this country shall be efficiently done. That I hold to be a *sine qua non*; and it, is quite clear I think that in no country, whether in Europe or here, that work in these days in all its width and extension cannot be duly carried out except by the assistance and by the funds of the central administration. And if these be true of Europe countries, if it be true of England, it is, I am inclined to say, much more true of India. And I trust, therefore that none of you who have listened to the observations I have just made, will carry away with you any idea that it would be the tendency of my policy, as Viceroy of this country, to restrict the aid of the Government in the promotion of public education. On the contrary I desire to extend that assistance, and carry it deeper, down into the lower ranks of the population; and it is for that very reason, and because I feel that the work to be done in regard to public education, is a work of such great magnitude, and recognize that if it is to be done efficiently, it will cost a larger amount of expenditure than it is possible for the Government of the country at present to embark upon, it is for these reasons that I hail so highly an institution of this kind (applause), and therefore, I am glad to have had this opportunity of expressing the deep and sincere interest which I feel in the work which is being done here and in other kindred colleges and schools.

This expression of opinion from the head of the Government cannot but be highly encouraging to Indian educationists.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumpion: its Treatment and Curability," writes—"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have after a brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke Esq., M. R. C. S., F. L. S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes:—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr.de Jongh's Light Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 17th December, 1881.

The state of the market during last week was as follows:

Piece-Goods.—This market although at times exhibited signs of reaction towards improvement, yet it has not succeeded to retain its position for any length of time in consequence of the continual over-supplies to it from the other side, and unless supplies were restricted the hopes of a revival in piece-goods trade in India will be at an end. The operations of the week have been so insignificant that it would be waste of time to insert the details.

Yarns.—Chiefly import kinds which for a long time met with no enquiry, but latterly the supplies having fallen off found buyers even at enhanced rates, therefore it is quite clear that over-supply has been the sole cause of the depression for the piece-goods and yarn markets.

Country manufactured sorts continue to be dull in the absence of demand which generally is the case at this time of the season when the weavers devote their time and attention to harvesting, neglecting their looms.

Exports.—Nothing of importance except transactions in Indigo and Tea of which there were 4 public sales of the former and 8763 chests were sold at prices much higher than at the last season, of the latter 7156 packages found buyers even at enhanced prices.

Jute.—In consequence of a large quantity of baled Jute being burnt at the late fire which took place at the Chitpore Hydraulic Presses augmented the current demand and helped the prices to rise 2 to 4 annas per maund; importers of Jute consider the occurance a good omen for the trade.

MONETARY.

Money market continues very tight but no change has taken place either in rates of interest or discount, 7 per cent. continues to be the minimum.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Continued depressed and owing to telegrams from London quoting lower rates helped the prices here to drop to 101-4 for fours and 110 for four and halves.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

Nothing of importance has transpired in this market, Jute and Tea stocks looking up.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs	As.	P.
M Deva Esq, London	16	8	0
S Vencatavaradiengar Esq, Simoga	13	4	0
George Clarke Esq, Darjeeling	9	0	0
George Nixon Esq, Chuprah	9	8	0
Baboo Benodelal Ghose, Budge Budge	13	4	0
Baboo Suttoprosunno Ghose, Chandernagore	20	0	0
Baboo Shamapersad Chowdry, Kassimpore	13	4	0
Baboo Sreedhur Chunder Gangooly, Nuddia	6	10	0
Baboo Shamadas Mozoomdar, Sooree	3	6	0
Baboo Janokynath Mojoomdar, Devigunge	10	0	0
Baboo Mohendra Nath Mookerjea, Burrisal	3	0	0
Baboo Surja Coomar Sen, Jehanabad	10	0	0
Baboo Promoda Nath Mookerjea, Jessore	10	0	0
Baboo Bhagobutty Churn Mookerjea, Mozufferpore	20	0	0
Baboo Gunganath Roy, Motcehari	20	0	0
Baboo Preo Nath Mittra, Rangoon	20	0	0
Baboo Dwarka Nath Bagchee, Serajgunge	20	0	0
Baboo Sham Chand Dhur, Burdwan	10	0	0
Baboo Tareenypersad Roy, Modhoopore	13	4	0
Baboo Havildar Setal Sing, Shillong	6	10	0
Baboo Denonath Gangooly, Saidpore	10	0	0
Baboo Annund Nath Roy, Dinagepore	14	0	0
Baboe Hem Chunder Banerjea, Benares	19	14	0
Baboo Bishnoo Chundra Moitra, Azimgurh	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*December* 14, 1881.

GENERAL.—Mr. F. W. Badcock officiating District and Session Judge, Midnapore, to act temporarily as Addl. Sessions Judge of Cuttack in addn to his other duties.

Mr J. Pratt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Purneah, returned from leave on 24th November 1881.

Mr. J. Anderson, offg. Magte and Colr. Bankoora, leave for one month in extension of leave granted 23rd August last.

Mr. A. H. Collins, Asst Magte and Colr in charge of the Govindpore divn of Manbhoom, leave for twenty-one days from 20th Dec 1881.

Babu Gopalchunder Mitter, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Manbhoom, to have charge of the Govindpore divn of that dist, during absence of Mr. A. H. Collins.

Mr. G. E. Manisty, offg, Jt-Magte and depy Colr Cuttack, is vested with special appellate powers under Section 87 of Act VII (B C) of 1876.

Babu Denenath Mookerjee, Depy Magte and Colr Hazaribagh, leave for fifteen days from 19th inst.

Mr C Brownfield, Asst Setlmt Officer, Khorda, leave for one month from date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr J G Ritchie offg Jt-Magte and Depy Colr 24-Perghs, leave for sixteen days.

The privilege leave granted to Babu Rajendranath Ghose, Offg Personal Asst to the Comr of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divn under the order of 5th Dec 1881, will have effect from 3rd idem.

Moonshee Purmeshwar Pershad, tempy Sub Depy Colr Hazaribagh leave for two months with effect from date on which he may be relieved of his present duty in connection with Census Operations.

Moulvie Syed Obedullah, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Noa-Khally, leave for three months in extension of leave granted 23rd Augt.

Babu Rajonicoomar Dutt, Depy Magte and Depy Colr Chandpore, Tipperah, on leave, is transfd to Noakholly, and posted to Sudder station of that district.

Babu Kalinath Bose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr Brahmunberiah, Tipperah, leave up to 31st inst, in extension of leave granted, 23rd Augt.

Babu Protapchunder Chatterjee, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Balasore, returned from leave on 2nd Dec, 1881.

Mr L C Abbott, Jt-Magte and Dy Colr, Bhagulpore, furlough for one year from 5th prox, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr J Posford Offg Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, Champarun, on leave, is transfd to Bhagulpore, and posted to Sudder station of that distr.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Wanted by the Road Cess Committee of the Dacca District a competent Overseer for six months, salary Rs. 100 and travelling allowance Rs. 30 per mensem. He must possess the necessary qualifications of an overseer of the P. W. D. and have had practical experience on works of construction.

Applications with copies of testimonials to be addressed to the undersigned on or before the 31st December 1881.

E. C. HAWKINS, C. E.,
Dacca District Engineer's Office, } District Engineer,
The 14th December 1881. } D. R. C. Dacca.

NOTICE.

WANTED.—Head Master for the Suburban *School Bhowaniporé, on a salary of Rs. 125 rising to* Rs. 150 in *five* years, by annual increment of Rs. 5. Those who attend the Law class or intend to join the Bar, or do not possess experience as teacher, need not apply.

Applications are to be made to Baboo Unoda Persad Banerjea, Secretary.

NOTICE.

Wanted at Dacca two clerks for the Dacca and Mymensingh State Railway Survey. Salary Rs. 40 per month. Must be conversant with P. W. D. Office routine and good hand-writing indispensible. Also a good draftsman wanted, salary Rs 80 per month. Apply by letter with copies only of testimonials to Engineer in Chief, Dacca, not later than 20th December 1881.

Notice.

Wanted a Head Clerk for the Dinajepur Rajbari Estate on a salary of Rupees 75 per month, rising to 100 Rs. with free quarters. A thorough knowledge in English and vernacular and experience in office work, is necessary.

Applications to be made and testimonials forwarded to Raja Khettramohun Sinha, Rai Bahadur, Manager Dinajepur Rajbari Estate till the 15th January 1882.

REQUIRED.—A Khanshama for the Boarding school at Tallygung for the sons and grand-sons of His Majesty the king of Oudh. A knowledge of requisites for a Hindoostanee kitchen essential. Wages from Rs. 12 to Rs.16 per mensem. Applications to be sent in to

MAJOR W. F. PRIDENUX,
49, Park Street, Calcutta.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Tenders are hereby invited for the supply of Hay and Straw for one year certain, commencing from 1st January next. Deliveries to be made every morning at the Municipal Gowkhanahs in such quantities as may be indented for.

The quantities, more or less, that will be required for the year are 22,600 maunds best rice straw and 2,600 maunds best sweet hay.

Tenders to be addressed under covers to the Engineer, marked "Tenders for Straw and Hay" and each to be accompanied by Rs. 200 as earnest money. Tenders will be received up to noon of 19th December and no later date..

The usual contract agreement will be entered into, and the contractor will be required to lodge Rs. 1,000 security in Government Promissory note for due fulfilment.

BOBERT TURNBULL,
Secy. to the Corporation.

মুক্তি এবং তাহার সাধন সম্বন্ধে হিন্দু শাস্ত্রের উপদেশ।

মূল্য ১॥ দেড় টাকা, ডাক মাশুল /১০ আনা।

কলিকাতা অপার সারকিউলার রোড গিরিশ বিদ্যারত্ন যন্ত্রে, ৫৫ নং কলেজ ষ্ট্রীট ক্যানিং লাইব্রেরিতে, এবং রায় প্রেস ডিপজিটরী, সংস্কৃত প্রেস ডিপজিটরী ও বি, বানর্জীর লাইব্রেরিতে প্রাপ্তব্য। (প্রত্যেক সংবাদপত্রই পুস্তক খানির যথেষ্ট প্রশংসা করিয়াছেন)।

ধাত্রী (মেডিকেল কলেজের পরীক্ষোত্তীর্ণা।)
শ্রীমতী নিতম্বিনী চট্টোপাধ্যায়।
১০৮ নং কলেজষ্ট্রীট্ কলিকাতা।

CALCUTTA EXHIBITION OF INDIAN ART-MANUFACTURES, 1882.

will be opened by
HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY
in the
INDIAN MUSEUM, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD,
ON
Wednesday the 4th January 1882.
AT 4 O'CLOCK P. M.

Admission to the opening ceremony can only be obtained by the holders of Season Tickets, which tickets may be had from the undersigned, at the Bengal Club, on the following terms :—

Family Ticket:—To admit the Head of the family, and all the ladies, and also all the children under 12 years of age, belonging to said family :—Rs 5.

Double Ticket:—To admit a Lady and gentleman :—Rs. 4

Single Ticket:—Rs 3.

No Season Ticket is Transferable.

Further particulars will be announced hereafter.

H. T. PRINSEP.
Chairman of the Committee.

"PHOSPHODYNE."

TRADE MARK.—*Sanctioned by H. M's. Government.*

HEALTH, STRENGTH, & ENERGY.

DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE

Discovered and so named, A. D. 1862, by R. D. LALOR, M. D.

To Residents in India, China, and the Colonies, it will prove invaluable as a Reliable Liver Tonic and a Vitalising Restorative.

DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE is a pure Solution of PHOSPHORUS, pleasant in flavour and appearance, being a perfectly Bright Liquor, combined with Vegetable Alkaloids, possessing marvellous Curative Properties, the Wonder of Modern Chemistry, free from all Dangerously Active Drugs, and pronounced by the Highest Medical Authority to be unequalled for its power in replenishing and elaborating THE VITALITY OF THE BODY; by its supplying all the essential constituents of the BLOOD BRAIN, and NERVE SUBSTANCE; and for developing all the Powers and Functions of the system to the highest degree; thereby checking all Wasting of the Vital Fluid, and the more Exhausting Wear and Tear of Life resulting from Over-taxed Energies of Body or Mind, and maintaining that Buoyant Energy of the Brain, Nervous and Muscular Systems which render the Mind Cheerful, Happy, Brilliant and Energetic.

Dr. Lalor's Phosphodyne Prompt.

Surpasses all the known therapeutic agents of the present age, AS THE ONLY SAFE RELIABLE, and PERMANENT CURE for all Derangements of the NERVOUS and BLOOD SYSTEMS.

Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Mental and Physical Depression, Incapacity for Study or Business, Noises in the Head and Ears, Loss of Energy and Appetite, Indigestion and Liver complaints, Flatulence, Nervous Fancies, Hypochondria Nervous Debility in all its Stages, Loss of Memory, Softening of the Brain, Sleeplessness, Paralysis, Lumbago, Affections of the Kidneys, Urinary Deposits, &c., Asthma, Consumption, Scrofula and Skin Diseases, Wasting or Withering of the Muscles, Impaired Nutrition, Impure and Impoverished Blood, Premature Decay of Vital Power and all morbid conditions of the system, dependent upon the deficiency of the VITAL FORCES, arising from whatever cause.

THE ACTION OF PHOSPHODYNE

Is Two-fold and Specific; on the one hand increasing the principle which CONSTITUTES NERVOUS ENERGY; and on the other, the MOST POWERFUL BLOOD and FLESH-GENERATING AGENT known; therefore a Marvellous Medicine for Renovating Impaired and Broken-down or Exhausted Constitutions, making the recipient as vigorous as if nature had never been retarded or debilitated.

TWENTY YEARS' PUBLIC TEST

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